

BASKETBALL DIPLOMACY

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP) — Former NBA star Dennis Rodman landed Tuesday in North Korea and said he plans to hang



Former NBA star Dennis Rodman at the departure hall of Beijing International Capital Airport in Beijing Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013.

(AP Photo/Andy Wong)

out with authoritarian leader Kim Jong Un, have a good time and maybe bridge some cultural gaps — but not be a diplomat. Rodman was greeted at Pyongyang's airport by Son Kwang Ho, vice-chairman of North Korea's Olympic Committee, just days after Pyongyang rejected a visit by a U.S. envoy who had hoped to bring home Kenneth Bae, an American missionary jailed there. The North abruptly called off the official visit because it said the U.S. had ruined the atmosphere for talks by holding a drill over South Korea with nuclear-capable B-52 bombers. Rodman said the purpose of his visit was to display his friendship for Kim and North Korea and to "show people around the world that we as Americans can actually get along with North Korea."

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Members of the 36th Infantry Division of the Texas Army National Guard participate in a ceremony on the floor of the Frank Erwin Center in Austin, Texas. The Texas National Guard is refusing to process requests for benefits submitted by same-sex couples because of the state constitution's definition of marriage.

(AP Photo/Tamir Kalifa)

Texas Guard refuses to process same-sex benefits

CHRIS TOMLINSON

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Texas National Guard refused to process requests for benefits on Tuesday, citing the state constitution's ban on gay marriage, despite a Pentagon directive to do so. Pentagon officials said Texas appeared to be the only state that planned to turn gay and lesbian couples away on Tuesday, the first working day that gays in the military may apply for benefits. The Department of

Defense had announced it would recognize same-sex marriages performed in states where they are legal following the U.S. Supreme Court decision throwing out the Defense of Marriage Act. Passed by Congress in 1996, the act prohibited federal recognition of same-sex marriages and said no state could be forced to recognize such marriages that might become legal in another state. Meanwhile, Mississippi said it won't issue applications from state-owned

offices, because of the state's gay-marriage ban. Maj. Gen. John Nichols, the commanding general of Texas Military Forces, wrote in a letter obtained by The Associated Press that because the Texas Constitution defines marriage as between a man and a woman, his state agency couldn't process applications from gay and lesbian couples. But he said the Texas National Guard, Texas Air Guard and Texas State Guard would not deny anyone benefits.

"However, the (Texas Military Forces) remains committed to ensuring its military personnel and their families receive the benefits to which they are entitled. As such, we encourage anyone affected by this issue to enroll for benefits at a federal installation," he advised service members. He then listed 22 bases operated by the Department of Defense in Texas where service members could enroll their families.

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North Korea: Rodman returns to visit his 'friend' Kim

Continued from front

Speaking to reporters in Beijing ahead of his flight to Pyongyang — his second trip to the North — Rodman declined to say whether he would seek Bae's release. Bae's health is poor, and he was recently transferred to a hospital.

"I just want to meet my friend Kim, the marshal, and start a basketball league over there or something like that," said Rodman, wearing rings through his lower lip and each nostril. "I have not been promised anything. I am just going there as a friendly gesture."

Bae was arrested in November and sentenced to 15 years of hard labor

North Korea by the Ministry of Physical Culture and Sport, which has not confirmed if or when Rodman will meet Kim Jong Un.

Meetings between senior North Korean officials and foreigners are normally not officially confirmed or announced in advance.

Rodman first met Kim — a die-hard basketball fan — during a visit in February to promote the sport and make a film. U.S. officials frowned on the trip for giving the young leader a propaganda boost.

In the weeks that followed, after U.N. sanctions imposed in early March over Pyongyang's February nuclear test, North Korea threatened Washington and Seoul with nuclear

run factory complex in the North Korean border city of Kaesong. While there is skepticism about Pyongyang's intentions, the warming ties have been welcomed in Seoul.

Outside analysts have said Pyongyang is likely using Bae as bait to win diplomatic concessions in a standoff over its nuclear weapons program. North Korea denies this.

Pyongyang accuses Bae of trying to establish an anti-Pyongyang base in the North. Friends say Bae was based in a Chinese border city and traveled frequently to North Korea both as a tour operator and to feed orphans. At least five other Americans have been detained in North Korea since



Former NBA star Dennis Rodman speaks to the media at the departure hall of Beijing International Capital Airport in Beijing Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. Rodman traveled to North Korea for the second time this year for what he says is a friendly visit to his friend, the communist nation's leader, Kim Jong Un.

(AP Photo/Andy Wong)

for what Pyongyang described as hostile acts against the state. Rodman once asked on his Twitter account for Kim to "do me a solid" and release Bae. Kim has the power to grant special pardons under the North's constitution.

"I'm not there to be a diplomat. I'm there to go there and just have a good time, sit with (Kim) and his family, and that's pretty much it," Rodman said, adding that he planned to see Kim "pretty soon," perhaps later Tuesday or Wednesday. Rodman is being hosted in

and missile strikes and shut down an inter-Korean factory in the North.

Rodman, however, suggested "basketball diplomacy" could warm relations and said that Kim wanted President Barack Obama to pick up the phone and call him. He has called Kim an "awesome guy."

Rodman's trip comes as the rival Koreas pursue diplomacy meant to restart several cooperative projects that were scrapped as tensions rose in recent years, including the jointly

2009. The others were eventually allowed to leave without serving out their terms, some after clemency missions by prominent Americans, including former presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter.

Just this past weekend, a planned trip by Robert King, the U.S. envoy for North Korean human rights, fell through after Pyongyang said it couldn't forgive the inclusion of U.S. nuclear capable bombers in recently concluded U.S.-South Korean military drills. □

CARIBBEAN NEWS BRIEFS

Boy, 14, killed by stray bullet in rural Guyana

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — A 14-year-old boy in the South American country of Guyana has been killed by a stray bullet while fishing in an area that authorities say is home to a group of suspected gang members. Residents of the sugar-producing community of Wales are demanding that police take action against those responsible for Ryan Persaud's death late Monday, saying they often hear weapons being fired in the area. The boy's father, Vishnu Persaud, told reporters that their home was hit by a bullet late last month. Deputy Police Chief Seelall Persaud told The Associated Press Tuesday that officers are seeking the cooperation of residents to help solve the case. □

Jamaica arrests former judge as scam suspect

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — A former judge in Jamaica has been arrested by anti-corruption agents on suspicion of involvement in the Caribbean island's lucrative lottery scam. The Jamaica Constabulary Force says in a Tuesday statement that officers searched the woman's office in northern Jamaica and found several documents called "lead lists" that have personal information about lottery scam victims. They say they also seized an illegal gun. Police say the suspect is a former resident magistrate now working as a lawyer in St. James parish. For years, Jamaican fraudsters have conned mostly elderly Americans out of their savings saying that they've won millions in a lottery. □

Haitian migrants found on Puerto Rican island

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Authorities say 56 Haitian migrants were found stranded on a tiny island off Puerto Rico's west coast. A spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection says the group, along with one Cuban migrant, was found by Puerto Rico police officers patrolling the waters near Desecheo island. Jeffrey Quinones told The Associated Press Tuesday that officials are interviewing the migrants to obtain more details about how they ended up on the island. He said authorities have found no evidence of a boat capsizing. The number of Haitian migrants heading to Puerto Rico has increased significantly in the past year. □

Puerto Rico to restore, reopen historic bridge

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Crews in Puerto Rico are restoring a 108-year-old bridge in the island's central region that is listed as a U.S. historic site. Gov. Alejandro Garcia Padilla said Tuesday the \$3.3 million restoration of the Mata de Platano bridge will take nearly two years because it has several coats of lead paint. The bridge was built in 1905 to carry the first highway to reach Ciales, which was a key coffee town at the time. The span was closed in January 2010 because its base had deteriorated and was unsafe. The bridge crosses 44 feet (13 meters) above the Manati River canyon and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1995. □

Ex-Grenada gov. general Paul Scoon dies at 78

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Paul Scoon, who was Grenada's governor general during the U.S. invasion of the small island in 1983, has died in his Caribbean homeland. He was 78. In announcing his death late Monday night, Grenada's government did not give a cause. But Scoon had long had diabetes, and friends say he died at his home in St. Paul's. Prime Minister Keith Mitchell described Scoon as a "fearless man." □

S&P Agency: US \$5B lawsuit is 'retaliation'

SARAH SKIDMORE SELL
Associated Press

Standard & Poor's says the U.S. government sued the rating agency as "retaliation" for its downgrade of the country's credit rating. The Department of Justice filed civil charges against the rating agency in February, claiming that S&P refused to warn investors that the housing market was collapsing because it would be bad for business. It also says S&P knowingly inflated ratings of risky mortgage investments that helped trigger an economic crisis. And that S&P gave high marks to the investments because it wanted to earn more business from the banks that issued them. The government is seeking \$5 billion in penalties.

S&P, a unit of McGraw Hill Cos., has repeatedly denied the claims.

The rating agency said in a court filing Tuesday that its opinions were independent and based on a good-faith assessment of the performance of residential mortgages during a tumultuous time in the market.

It also said that, like nearly everyone else at the time, S&P did not anticipate the scope or impact of the collapse of the housing market on the economy as a whole.

S&P says that it is being sued in retaliation for a downgrade of the United States' top-tier credit rating in 2011.

The rating agency downgraded the U.S. government's long-term credit rating one notch to "AA+" following a standoff in Congress over whether to raise America's borrowing limit. The agency was concerned that the country's leaders weren't addressing the federal debt burden.

It was a historic move that sent the stock market plunging and rattled consumer and business confidence. Previously, the U.S. government had always received a "AAA" rating, reserved for the most credit-worthy borrowers. □

Obama gets top Republican support on Syria

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama's call for a military strike in Syria won significant momentum Tuesday, with leaders of both parties in Congress saying they are convinced that Syrian President Bashar Assad used chemical weapons against his own people and that the United States should respond.

The top Republican in Congress, House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner, said taking action is something "the United States as a country needs to do."

Boehner emerged from a meeting at the White House and said the United States has "enemies around the world that need to understand that we're not going to tolerate this type of behavior."

Obama on Saturday unexpectedly stepped back from ordering a military strike under his own authority and announced Saturday he would seek congressional approval.

The president urged Congress to hold a prompt vote once it returns from holiday next week.

He also tried to assure the public that involvement in Syria will be a "limited, proportional step."

"This is not Iraq, and this is not Afghanistan," Obama said.

He met with top lawmakers hours before he leaves on a three-day trip to Europe, with a visit to Sweden and a G-20 summit in Russia.

The U.S. says it has proof

that the Assad regime is behind sarin gas attacks that Washington claims killed at least 1,429 people, including more than 400 children. The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, which collects information from a network

Democrats, too, were divided, although it appeared the administration's biggest concern was winning support among deeply conservative Republicans who have battled with the president on issue after issue since win-

est.

Those questions come a decade after the Bush administration badly misrepresented the case that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein possessed weapons of mass destruction.

Lawmakers in both par-



House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio listens as President Barack Obama speaks to media, in the Cabinet Room of the White House in Washington, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, before a meeting with between the president and Congressional leaders to discuss the situation in Syria. Boehner said he will support the president's call for the U.S. to take action against Syria for alleged chemical weapons use and says his Republican colleagues should support the president, too.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

of anti-regime activists, says it has so far only been able to confirm 502 dead. The Obama administration argues that the United States must exert global leadership in retaliating for what apparently was the deadliest use of chemical weapons anywhere over the past 25 years.

Boehner's support is key, but opposition Republicans in Congress do not speak with one voice.

ning control of the House three years ago.

And after a decade of war in Iraq and Afghanistan, polls show most Americans opposed to any new military action overseas.

Some lawmakers say Obama still hasn't presented good evidence that Assad's forces were responsible for the Aug. 21 attack. Others say he hasn't explained why intervening is in America's inter-

ties called for changes in the Obama's requested legislation, rewriting it to restrict the type and duration of any military action that would be authorized, possibly including a ban on U.S. combat forces on the ground.

Secretary of State John Kerry said it would not be a problem to include language establishing "zero capacity for American troops on the ground." □

Texas Guard refuses to process same-sex benefits

Continued from front

Mississippi officials said same-sex couples can apply on federally owned National Guard bases, but not on state property.

Governments in 19 states offer benefits for the same-sex partners of state employees, whether marriage is allowed or not.

National Guard officials in Florida, Michigan and Oklahoma — all states that ban gay marriage — said

they will follow federal law. "It's truly outrageous that the State of Texas has decided to play politics with our military families," said Stephen Peters, president of American Military Partner Association, which advocates for lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender people in the armed forces. "Our military families are already dealing with enough problems and the last thing they need is more discrimination from the

state of Texas."

The association gave the AP a copy of Nichols' letter. State officials said they supported same-sex families but couldn't process the paperwork.

"Despite the legal conflict, the (Texas Military Forces) remains committed to ensuring military personnel and their families receive the benefits to which they are entitled," said Laura Lopez, a spokeswoman for Texas Military Forces, which

oversees the state's National Guard units.

Lt. Cmdr. Nate Christensen, a spokesman at the Pentagon, said federal officials will process all applications from same-sex couples with a marriage certificate from a state where it is legal. According to U.S. officials, the Defense Department is aware of the Texas National Guard's interpretation of the policy, but the department has not made any legal determination on it. □

Nanny's lawyer: Panel deceived in US baby death

DENISE LAVOIE

AP Legal Affairs Writer

WOBURN, Massachusetts

(AP) — A lawyer for an Irish nanny charged in the death of a 1-year-old girl accused prosecutors Tuesday of presenting "false and deceptive" information to a grand jury to get a murder indictment against her.

Aisling Brady McCarthy is charged with murder and assault and battery on a child in the January death of Rehma Sabir. The girl was hospitalized on her first birthday with severe head injuries and died two days later.

McCarthy's lawyer, Melinda Thompson, asked a judge to dismiss the charges against her, alleging that "90 percent" of the evidence presented to the

grand jury was improperly admitted.

"This is about the defendant sitting in jail for a crime that she absolutely did not commit," Thompson said.

Judge S. Jane Haggerty did not immediately rule.

McCarthy, 35, appeared tearful as she was led into court in handcuffs.

In particular, Thompson said, prosecutors should not have presented evidence about bone fractures the girl appeared to suffer between two weeks and two months before she died. Thompson said prosecutors offered no evidence linking McCarthy to those injuries.

Thompson said McCarthy spent just 1½ weeks out of the last two months of the child's life caring for the girl because the girl's mother took her on two trips out-

side the country during that time.

Thompson said prosecutors put evidence of the bone fractures before the grand jury "to make it seem like my client was abusing this child."

Thompson also complained that prosecutors asked leading questions of certain witnesses to question McCarthy's character and "to make it look like she was a bad caretaker." For example, prosecutors allowed testimony that the baby's grandmother did not approve of the way McCarthy dressed the girl. Thompson said the baby's mother lied when she told the grand jury that the girl had never fallen off the bed. Later, instead of putting the mother back before the grand jury, pros-



Aisling Brady McCarthy, left, from Quincy, Mass., is led into the courtroom for a hearing to request charges be dropped, in Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn, Mass., Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. McCarthy, a nanny who hails from Ireland, is charged with murder and assault and battery on a child in the death of Rehma Sabir in January.

(AP Photo/Wendy Maeda)

ecutors asked a detective if the mother wanted to clarify something she said. The detective then told the grand jury that the mother now recalled that the baby fell off the bed once during a trip to Pakistan in the months before she died. The detective said the mother said the baby fell on her hands and did not hit her head.

Assistant District Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald said prosecutors did not submit any false or misleading information to the grand jury. He said they presented testimony from every caretak-

er the child had because they were "looking to find out what caused the death of this child."

Fitzgerald said none of the witnesses expressed an opinion on the cause of the bone fractures.

Dr. Alice Newton, medical director of the Child Protection Team at Boston Children's Hospital, diagnosed the girl as a victim of abusive head trauma, which she said includes injuries caused by violent shaking and by striking the head or causing the head to strike another object or surface. □

NYPD:

British soldiers assaulted an Off-duty New York City cop

NEW YORK (AP) — Six British soldiers have been charged with assault in the beating of an off-duty New York City police officer. Authorities said Tuesday the charges stem from an argument that broke out about 4:20 a.m. Friday outside a Manhattan bar.

A criminal complaint says that the attackers punched the unarmed police officer until he fell to the ground and that when the officer

tried to call police for help, one of the men punched him again and took his cell-phone.

The complaint says the officer suffered a broken nose and a swollen jaw.

British officials identified the six men as members of the Scots Guard, which is one of five army regiments that guard royal residences.

The names of their defense attorneys were not immediately available. □

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Judge orders new hearing in Montana rape case

MATTHEW BROWN

BILLINGS, Mont. (AP) — A Montana judge under fire for his comments about a 14-year-old victim in a schoolhouse rape case has ordered a new sentencing hearing for the former teacher who received just 30 days in prison for the crime.

In setting the hearing for Friday afternoon, District Judge G. Todd Baugh said Tuesday that state law appears to require that a two-year mandatory minimum prison term be imposed against Stacey Rambold, 54, of Billings.

Rambold last week was sentenced to 15 years with all but 31 days suspended and a one-day credit for

time-served. He began serving his monthlong term last week at the state prison in Deer Lodge.

"In the Court's opinion, imposing a sentence which suspends more than the mandatory minimum would be an illegal sentence," Baugh wrote.

The judge faced widespread condemnation from women's rights activists, elected officials and others for saying Rambold's 14-year-old victim, Cherise Moralez, was "older than her chronological age" and asserting that she had some control over her months-long relationship with Rambold.

Moralez killed herself before Rambold's case came

to trial.

The judge later apologized, although activists who have called for him to resign said an apology is not

enough.

Prosecutors had been considering an appeal, citing the two-year minimum requirement. □



Stacey Rambold stands in a courtroom after sentencing by Judge G. Todd Baugh in Billings, Mont. Under fire for his comments about the 14-year-old victim in the school rape case, Baugh has ordered a new sentencing hearing for the former teacher who received just 30 days in prison for the crime.

(AP Photo/Paul Ruhter)

Christie claims rival mocked weight

ANGELA DELLI SANTI

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie accused his Democratic opponent Tuesday of making a mocking reference to his weight when she suggested that the image of him "frolicking on the beach" was not a boost to tourism.

State Sen. Barbara Buono denied taking aim at Christie's size. Her campaign said she was questioning the effectiveness of tourism-promotion commercials featuring the governor and his family that ran all summer in an effort to bring visitors back to the Jersey Shore, parts of which were devastated by last fall's Superstorm Sandy.

In a clip from a campaign event posted on YouTube last week, Buono says: "I don't know about you, but seeing Chris Christie frolicking on the beach is not going to drive me to go to the shore."

Christie, the 50-year-old

Republican governor and potential 2016 presidential contender, has long struggled with his weight — and joked about it, too. During an appearance on "The Late Show with David Letterman," he pulled a doughnut out of his suit pocket and took a few bites.

"I'm very disappointed that she decided to go down that road, for me and for other folks across New Jersey, many folks, who are challenged by their weight," said Christie, who is noticeably slimmer since undergoing gastric band surgery in February. "The fact that someone running for governor would make derisive comments about someone's physical appearance is really beneath the office she's seeking."

Buono's campaign said she was trying to call attention to problems at the shore 10 months after Sandy caused billions of dollars in damage. □

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Investors in \$7B Stanford swindle start getting payouts

JUAN A. LOZANO
Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Investors in a \$7 billion Ponzi scheme orchestrated by convicted ex-Texas tycoon R. Allen Stanford have begun getting back some of what they lost after a recovery process that has dragged on for more than 4½ years. However, the amounts being returned to many who lost their life savings ultimately will be only a pittance of their investments — about 1 percent of what they put in. The largest claim being paid out in the first distribution of funds to victims of Stanford's scheme is about \$50,000, while the smallest is \$2.81. Many of the claims seemed to be in the range of \$1,000 to \$4,000, according to court docu-

ments filed late last month. British retiree Kate Freeman, who lost \$820,000 in the scheme, said she and other investors continue to be frustrated by the slowness of the recovery process. "After nearly five years, it's just the biggest disappointment — isn't it? — that this is all we're getting," Freeman, in her late 50s, said Tuesday in a telephone interview from her home in Antigua. David Arlington, an attorney for Ralph Janvey, the U.S. court-appointed receiver who is making the initial distribution, said he expects that most of this first allotment of funds — about \$1 million — will be disbursed within the next few months. "Obviously it's a huge milestone in this receivership



R. Allen Stanford, center, leaves the Bob Casey Federal Courthouse in Houston. Investors in a \$7 billion Ponzi scheme orchestrated by Stanford have begun getting back some of what they lost after a recovery process that has dragged on for more than 4½ years. (AP Photo/Nick de la Torre)

to be able to begin making payments to investors. We're pleased with the fact that we are doing that," he said.

Prosecutors said Stanford persuaded investors to buy certificates of deposit, or CDs, from his bank on the Caribbean island nation

of Antigua then used the money to fund a string of failed businesses, bribe regulators and pay for his lavish lifestyle. In a Ponzi scheme, money from new investors is used to pay old ones. Stanford, 63, was convicted last year on 13 fraud-related counts and sentenced to 110 years in prison. Stanford's financial empire once spanned from the U.S. to Latin America and the Caribbean. After its collapse, a U.S. federal judge in Dallas and an Antiguan court both appointed people to try to recover assets. The U.S. Justice Department also undertook its own effort. Janvey's initial distribution of funds is part of \$55 million that he got approval in May to disburse.

"He's got \$55 million to pay out. If he releases them in small batches like this, it's going to take forever. It just seems so badly organized," Freeman said.

Arlington said the distributions to investors are being made as quickly as possible but are dependent on how soon investors return paperwork needed to finalize their claims.

"We're pleased with the pace we expect to achieve in sending these payments out," he said.

Janvey has said additional money that has already been collected or will be obtained through lawsuits or other efforts will also be distributed at some point. □

Bezos makes first visit to Washington Post as owner

CHRISTINE HAUGHNEY
© 2013 New York Times

Jeffrey P. Bezos, the new owner of The Washington Post, kicked off a packed, two-day visit to the paper Tuesday, his first since purchasing the newspaper for \$250 million Aug. 5. Bezos was meeting with managers on the editorial and business sides, according to people with knowledge of his schedule, at times chaperoned by Katharine Weymouth, the publisher and a member of the Graham family from whom Bezos bought

the paper.

On Wednesday, he is expected to meet with reporters, hold a noon lunch with editors, tour the Post's printing plant in Springfield, Va., and answer questions during a meeting with the newsroom staff at 3:30 p.m.

While Bezos can often be reticent with the media, he gave an interview to The Post that ran on Monday's front page and said he was ready for The Post to start a new "golden era" under his ownership. Bezos, the founder of Am-

azon.com who now serves as the company's chairman and chief executive, bought The Post as a separate investment from Amazon.

But he told The Post that he planned to bring to the newspaper some of the same approaches that had been successful for Amazon.

"We've had three big ideas at Amazon that we've stuck with for 18 years, and they're the reason we're successful: Put the customer first. Invent. And be patient," he

said. "If you replace 'customer' with 'reader,' that approach, that point of view, can be successful at The Post, too."

Bezos said he did not expect to be involved with the daily operations of The Post. Instead, he said, he will offer his "point of view" and financial support.

"I'll be there with lots of advice from a distance," Bezos said.

Bezos is expected to close on the deal in October. The Graham family had controlled the paper for about eight decades. □



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US Financial Front:

Pace of American manufacturing hits a 2-year peak

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. factories expanded last month at the fastest pace since June 2011 on a jump in orders. The report signals that manufacturing output could strengthen in coming months.

The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, said Tuesday that its manufacturing index rose to 55.7 in August from 55.4 in July.

That topped the index's 12-month average of 52. A reading above 50 indicates growth.

A gauge of new orders rose nearly five points to 63.2, the highest level in more than two years. At the same time, production increased more slowly than in July, and factories added jobs at a weaker rate. Despite the drop, production reached its highest level in 2½ years.

The overall improvement contrasts with other recent reports that had pointed to a slowdown in manufacturing. The ISM's survey found broad-based growth, with 15 out of 18 industries reporting expansion and only one reporting contraction. That suggests that factory production could accelerate this year.

"The data unambiguously point to a pickup in ... manufacturing output growth

after a weak" second quarter, Jim O'Sullivan, an economist at High Frequency Economics, said in a note to clients.

The Federal Reserve will closely examine Tuesday's report, which comes two weeks before Fed policymakers will decide whether to slow their bond-buying program. Chairman Ben Bernanke has said the Fed will scale back its purchases this year if the economy continues to strengthen. The \$85 billion in monthly bond purchases have been intended to keep interest rates low.

The jobs report for August, to be released Friday, is the most important remaining economic report the Fed will consider.

Orders from overseas also rose, a sign that improving economies in Europe and China may be boost-

ing U.S. manufacturers. The 17 countries that use the euro grew in the April-June quarter after six quarters of recession.

And a private survey of

purchasing managers in China found that manufacturing in that country expanded for the first time after shrinking for three months. It added to other

recent evidence that China's economy is stabilizing after a slowdown.

Last month, a Fed report found that factory output dipped in July. But that slip reflected a slowdown in auto production, which many analysts expect to be only temporary.

Companies also cut back in July on orders for long-lasting U.S. factory goods, according to a government report last week. That drop was driven by a sharp fall in demand for commercial aircraft, a volatile category.

But businesses also sharply reduced their orders for capital goods such as computers, electrical equipment and other items. That decline may signal that business investment, an important driver of the economy, could slow. □



A covered vehicle sits in part of the new paint shop at Chrysler's Sterling Heights Assembly Plant in Sterling Heights, Mich. The Institute for Supply Management issued a positive U.S. manufacturing index report for July on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013.

(AP Photo/Paul Sancya)

US construction spending up 0.6% in July

M. CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Spending on U.S. construction projects rose in July, led by strong gains in housing and nonresidential projects. Construction spending increased 0.6 percent in July compared with June when activity was unchanged, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday. The June

performance represented an upward revision from an initial estimate that spending had fallen 0.6 percent. Total construction activity rose to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$900.8 billion in July, the strongest performance since June 2009. The July gain reflected a 0.6 percent rise in housing construction with both single-family and apartment construction posting gains.

In June, housing had fallen 0.9 percent.

Government projects fell 0.3 percent in July with state and local spending down 0.4 percent. That drop more than offset a 1.1 percent rise in the smaller federal category.

The advance in housing activity pushed residential construction to its highest level since September 2008. The increase for non-

residential building was led by a 6.1 percent increase in construction of hotels and motels. Office building and the category that covers shopping centers also showed gains.

Total construction is 5.2 percent higher than it was a year ago with residential activity up 17.2 percent and nonresidential construction up by a more modest 2 percent. □



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Israel, US conduct missile test in Mediterranean

JODI RUDOREN

© 2013 New York Times

JERUSALEM - Israel and the United States tested a new air-defense system Tuesday, launching a missile from deep in the Mediterranean Sea that caused consternation in Syria and Russia given the heightened tension in the region

trajectory toward the Israeli coast and the Arrow radar system detecting and tracking its path. Myriam Nahon, a spokeswoman for the Defense Ministry, declined to answer questions about whether the test had been connected in any way to the situation in Syria, saying only that

statement said the test had nothing to do with U.S. preparations for possible military action against Syria.

"The test was long planned to help the Arrow Ballistic Missile Defense system's ability to detect, track and communicate information about a simulated threat

sians would not see it," Herzog said.

"But right now they have probably many sensors looking at the region, so each and every movement or flying object in the region is something that they look at and try to understand what happens. They may be thinking that it may be something that is connected to the Syrian situation, but it is not."

On its Facebook page, the Defense Ministry posted a 33-second video of a jet releasing the missile and said in its statement that "all the elements of the system performed according to their operational configuration."

Commenting on the missile test, Moshe Yaalon, the defense minister of Israel, said on Army Radio that the preparedness by the Israel Defense Forces over the past week was "founded on many technological capabilities, which need to be tested by the defense establishment and the army, and indeed a successful test was held." He also said: "Our systems need to be examined and we will continue to develop, share and provide the IDF with the best systems in the world."

Yaalon added that Israel had not been involved in the U.S. policy process regarding Syria and noted that given the postponement of any possible military strike, the army had released some of the reservists called up last week. Syrian state media said there had been no missile detected by Syrian forces. Syrian supporters of the uprising briefly shared a flurry of excited messages on Twitter, viewing it as a sign of preparations for an attack and mocking the Syrian government. □

Turkey: Trial opens for suspect in NYC woman's death

SUZAN FRASER
Associated Press

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — A Turkish court ordered that a man accused of killing a New York City woman in Istanbul be placed under observation for an evaluation of his mental health on the opening day of his trial Tuesday.

In his first testimony in court, Ziya Tasali, 46, admitted killing Sarai Sierra but denied accusations that he had sexually assaulted her, the private Dogan news agency reported.

Sierra, a 33-year-old mother of two boys, was found dead on Feb. 2, days after her family reported her missing when she failed to return home from a solo vacation in Istanbul. Her body was discovered hidden near the remnants of Istanbul's ancient city walls and authorities said she was killed by a blow to the head.

Tasali was arrested near the Syrian border in March. He had been on the run since Sierra's body was found and was believed to be in hiding in Syria.

During trial, Tasali described himself as a scrap-paper collector with no fixed address.

He admitted fatally hitting Sierra with a rock but disputed charges of sexual assault.

"I was sitting beneath the walls. I had sniffed paint thinner (vapors) and was high," Dogan quoted him as telling the court in Istanbul.

"I approached her and wanted to kiss her. But she hit me with her phone between my two eyebrows. □



A missile is launched at an undisclosed location in Israel. Israel and the U.S. conducted a joint missile test over the Mediterranean on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, in an apparent display of military prowess as the Obama administration seeks congressional support for strikes against the regime of Syrian President Bashar Assad.

(AP Photo/Israel Aircraft Industries)

as the Obama administration weighs a military strike in Syria.

Israel's Ministry of Defense said in a statement that the first test of the latest version of the so-called Sparrow target missile had been successful, with the missile following its planned

such tests are "conducted periodically," and "it happens whenever it has to happen."

In Washington, the Pentagon said in a statement that it had provided technical assistance and support to the Israelis for the Sparrow test launch. The

to Israel," the statement said.

Arieh Herzog, the former head of Israel's missile-defense program, said the test was "a routine part of what is done in the development of the defense systems."

"In regular days the Rus-

WWII hero's family seeks Obama's help

MALIN RISING

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — The family of World War II hero Raoul Wallenberg will ask President Barack Obama for help in their quest to find out what happened to the Swedish diplomat who vanished after being arrested by Soviet forces in 1945.

Wallenberg's niece, Marie Dupuy, told The Associated

Press on Tuesday that the family will present a letter to Obama at a memorial ceremony for Wallenberg that the president is set to attend Wednesday in Stockholm.

In the letter, Wallenberg's half-sister Nina Lagergren and the widow of his half brother, Matilda von Dardel, suggest U.S. diplomats raise the Wallenberg

issue "directly in formal discussions with Russian authorities."

"Researchers need committed support in their efforts to obtain direct and uncensored access to Russian archival collections, especially those of the Soviet era intelligence and security services," says the letter, a copy of which was given to AP. □



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Russia: Gay activists plan to meet with Obama

N. VASILYEVA
Associated Press

MOSCOW (AP) — Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights activists said Tuesday they have been invited to meet with President Barack Obama on the sidelines of this week's Group of 20 summit in Russia. Obama and his administration have voiced concern over a law recently passed by Russia's parliament that targets "homosexual propaganda." Igor Kochetkov of LGBT Network told The Associated Press that his organization will accept the invitation to meet with Obama in St. Petersburg on Thursday. The St. Petersburg-based advocacy group Coming Out said it also was invited but hasn't decided yet whether to go. In 2009, he met with a group of Russian rights activists while visiting Russia, but members of the LGBT community were not present then. The bill on "propaganda of nontraditional sexual relations among minors" was signed into law by President Vladimir Putin on July 29. Russian lawmakers say the law doesn't outlaw homosexuality but merely discourages discussion of it among people younger than 18. □

Japan seeks big boost in defense budget

ERIC TALMADGE
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Japan needs to boost its military spending to counter the potential threat from China's increasingly powerful armed forces and North Korea's long-range missiles, its defense minister said Tuesday. Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera said Japan cannot afford to be complacent over what he said are significant security issues in the region. His ministry announced last week it is seeking a 3 percent increase in defense spending for the coming year, the biggest increase it has requested in 22 years. Onodera said the increase reflects growing concern in Japan that it must move to counter a more assertive Chinese military amid territorial disputes over uninhabited southern islands. He also noted that North Korea has the ability to strike targets within Japan — including U.S. bases where about 50,000 American troops are stationed — and said Japan's military must be fully prepared to respond with its allies to any contingency with the North. "There are various tensions ongoing in Asia, and in some cases, there are countries that even use threats," he said. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has been a strong advocate of strengthening Ja-

pan's military despite the country's other economic pressures, including the massive costs of reconstruction and decontamination following the nucle-

spark a debate about revising the nation's postwar constitution, which restricts the activities of the military to national defense, so that it would be able to partici-

in Japan and Diaoyu in China, and it hopes to do so by adding drones to its forces and basing more troops in the area, though not on the uninhabited islands themselves.

The government is considering acquiring the Osprey, a tilt-rotor aircraft that can fly like a helicopter or a conventional fixed-wing airplane, along with the unarmed Global Hawk drone, which is one of the most advanced in the world and would provide Japan with the capability of carrying out longer missions than its manned counterparts. Japan also will be introducing into its air force the F-35 fighter jet, another showcase aircraft that is superior to fighters used by China or Russia and would bring its air defenses more in sync with those of the United States.

Last month, Japan unveiled its biggest warship since World War II, a huge flat-top destroyer that has raised eyebrows in China and elsewhere because it bears a strong resemblance to a conventional aircraft carrier.

China recently began operations with its first aircraft carrier and is reportedly planning to build more. The Japanese ship, which has a flight deck that is nearly 250 meters (820 feet) long, is designed to carry up to 14 helicopters. □



Japanese Defense Minister Itsunori Onodera speaks during a press conference at Japan National Press Club in Tokyo Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. Onodera said Japan cannot afford to be complacent in the face of what he said were significant security issues in the region.

(AP Photo/Kyodo News)

ar disaster triggered by the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit Japan's northern shoreline in 2011.

Japan's defense spending has been declining steadily for 11 years, although it increased slightly this year. Abe has also sought to

pate more freely in international peacekeeping operations and joint missions with its allies, particularly the United States, a position that Washington backs. One of the top priorities for Japan is to step up surveillance around the southern islands, called Senkaku

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German prosecutors recommend Auschwitz guard charges

DAVID McHUGH
DAVID RISING

Associated Press

LUDWIGSBURG, Germany

(AP) — The German special prosecutors' office that investigates Nazi war crimes said Tuesday it is recommending charges against dozens of alleged former Auschwitz guards, opening the possibility of a new wave of trials almost 70 years after the end of World War II.

Federal prosecutor Kurt Schrimm, the head of the office in Ludwigsburg, said an investigation of 49 suspects turned up enough evidence to recommend that state prosecutors pursue charges of accessory to murder against 30 people in Germany who were stationed at the death

camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

Another seven suspects who live outside the country are still being investigated, two could not be found, and one further case has already gone to prosecutors, he said. Those living abroad are in Austria, Brazil, Croatia, the U.S., Poland and even one in Israel, Schrimm said without giving further details.

The names and hometowns of the suspects were not released. Schrimm said the oldest suspect was born in 1916 and the youngest in 1926, meaning they could range in age from 86 to 97. The cases are being sent to the responsible state prosecutors' offices in 11 of Germany's 16 states. "The biggest enemy is time,"

Schrimm told reporters.

Accessory to murder charges can be filed under the same legal theory that Munich prosecutors used to try former Ohio autoworker

Schrimm said.

Ukrainian-born Demjanjuk was the first person convicted in Germany solely on the basis of serving as a camp guard, with no evi-

murder.

Demjanjuk steadfastly maintained that he had been mistaken for someone else and never served as a camp guard.

Efraim Zuroff, the top Nazi hunter at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Jerusalem, said the decision could mean even more cases will be opened against guards at the other five main death camps established by the Nazis.

"We commend the (prosecutors) for seeking to apply the precedent as widely as possible and hope that they will be able to find as many perpetrators as possible," he said in a telephone interview.

"It's only a shame that this kind of legal reasoning was not applied previously, because it would have led to many, many more cases of people who definitely deserved to be brought to justice." □



The head of Ludwigsburg federal prosecutors' office, Kurt Schrimm stands in his office in Ludwigsburg, Germany.

(AP Photo/dpa, Daniel Bockwoldt)

John Demjanjuk, who died in a Bavarian nursing home last year while appealing his 2011 conviction on charges he served as a Sobibor death camp guard,

dence of involvement in a specific killing. Under the new legal argument, anyone who was involved in the operation of a death camp was an accessory to

Sudan reverses threat to stop oil flow

MOHAMED OSMAN

Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP)

— After meeting with his southern counterpart, Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir said Tuesday South Sudan's oil will continue to flow through his country's pipelines.

The announcement eases concerns after al-Bashir had ordered the pipelines closed earlier this year and accused South Sudan of supporting rebel movements in his country. The decision, though, had been delayed and was never implemented.

South Sudanese President Salva Kiir's visit to Sudan's capital city of Khartoum appeared aimed at reversing the order to close the pipelines, which would

have choked South Sudan's ability to export its oil. Kiir was given a red carpet reception upon arrival to Khartoum for the one-day visit.

In comments carried by the official Sudan News Agency, al-Bashir said the two presidents agreed to "remove all obstacles" in relations and fully implement cooperation agreements, including the flow of South Sudan's oil for export through Sudanese pipelines.

In a joint statement after their meeting, the two presidents said discussions went well.

"The discussions were carried out in a positive environment with frankness and a strong political will, which enabled the two sides to

reach understandings, paving the way for the implementation of all cooperation agreements signed by the two countries," the statement said.

South Sudan became independent of Sudan in 2011 after a lengthy civil war, and took with it much of Sudan's oil reserves.

The two sides are still in dispute over a number of issues, including rights to the oil-rich Abyei region, which they vowed to address through continuous dialogue according to the joint statement. Sudanese troops have been ambushed and killed there by rebels and the area remains volatile. A U.N. mission there helps mark the border and monitors a demilitarized zone. □

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Sweden investigating lost WikiLeaks luggage

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

STOCKHOLM (AP) — Swedish police opened an investigation Tuesday after WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange urged them to find out what happened to a suitcase he suspects was stolen from him in 2010 by intelligence agents as he traveled from Sweden to Germany. The suitcase contained three laptops that had WikiLeaks materials, including evidence of a "war crime" allegedly committed by U.S. troops in Afghanistan, according to an affidavit that Assange's lawyer filed along with a criminal complaint to police at Stockholm's Arlanda Airport. In the affidavit, Assange suggested his bag may

have been illegally seized "as part of an intelligence operation with the purpose of gathering information about me."

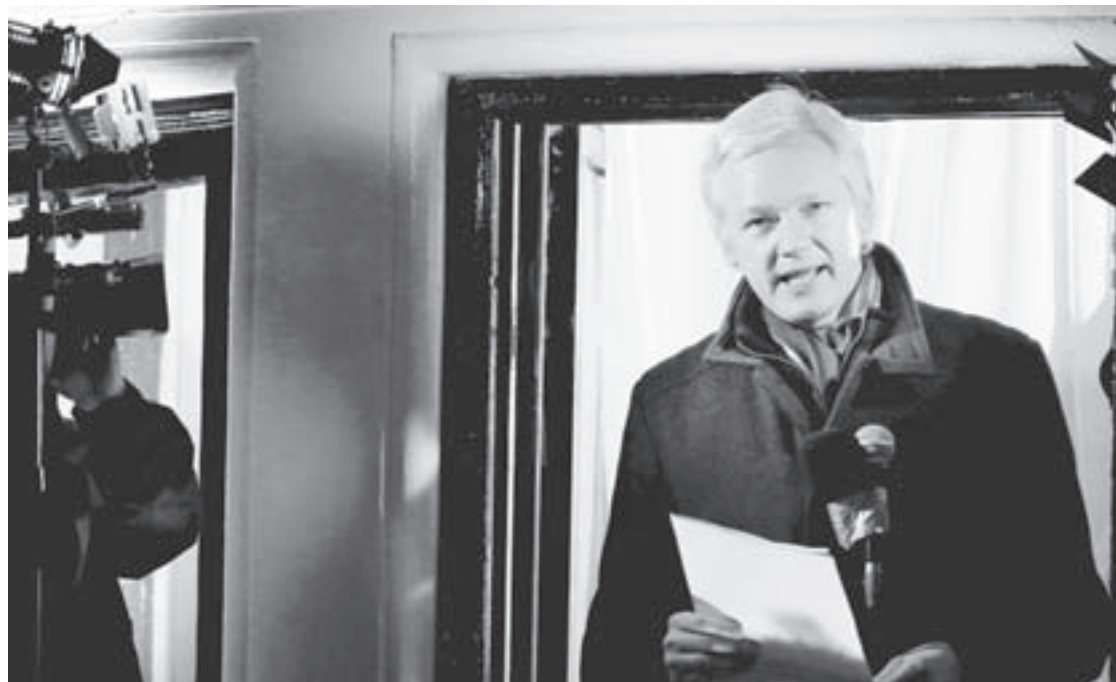
He offered no proof but said all attempts to locate the bag had failed.

The move comes a day before President Barack Obama visits Sweden.

"The suspected seizure or theft occurred at a time of intense attempts by the U.S. to stop WikiLeaks' publications of 2010,"

Assange said and suggested that Swedish authorities "seek explanations" from members of Obama's delegation during their visit.

The police border control division at Arlanda Airport opened an investigation as a matter of course after receiving the complaint Tuesday,



Julian Assange, founder of WikiLeaks, speaks to the media and members of the public from a balcony at the Ecuadorian Embassy in London. Assange has asked Swedish police to investigate what happened to a suitcase he suspects was stolen from him when he traveled from Sweden to Germany in 2010.

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

spokeswoman Jessica Fremnell said. She declined to comment on Assange's suggestion to interrogate people in Obama's entourage, say-

ing "we make our own decisions about what we think we need to do."

Assange's lawyer, Per Samuelson, told the AP that airport personnel in Berlin and Stockholm had not been able to locate the bag and could not explain how it got lost as Assange traveled to Berlin on Sept. 27, 2010.

"It was checked in and we have luggage tags and ev-

erything," he said.

"It's gone without a trace." WikiLeaks spokesman Kristinn Hrafnsson said similar complaints would be filed in other countries, including Germany and Denmark, alleging potentially unlawful U.S. intelligence operations against Assange.

"It's time to confront it and fight back on all fronts," Hrafnsson told the AP. □

Truck thieves storm into Israel airport

JERUSALEM (AP) — A spokeswoman for Israel's international airport says flights were temporarily grounded after two Palestinian truck thieves stormed through airport checkpoints. Israeli police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld says it was unclear why they entered the airport, but it did not appear to be a politically motivated attack. Ben Gurion Airport spokes-

woman Liza Dvir says two Palestinians stole a truck in a nearby residential area early Tuesday and drove toward the airport, barreling past two airport checkpoints.

Dvir says the truck made it close to the main airport terminal when a security guard shot at the car. The two men fled by foot and guards apprehended them. There were no injuries.

Dvir says flights were briefly grounded, and some flight schedules were delayed. She says airport activity has returned to normal. □

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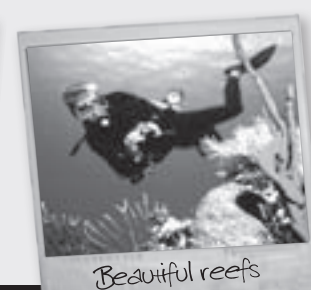
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Suriname leader distances himself from jailed son

ARNEY BELFOR
Associated Press

PARAMARIBO, Suriname
(AP) — President Desi Bouterse of Suriname distanced himself Tuesday from his son following the younger man's arrest and quick extradition to the United States to face drug and weapons charges.

The president told reporters that Dino Bouterse is an adult and no longer holds a government position with the South American country. "When people talk about Dino sometimes it sounds like they are talking to me about a 12-year-old," the president said. "But he is a grown man, with 13 children, who will turn 41. He is responsible for his own actions."

They were the president's first public comments since his son was arrested on Thursday in Panama and quickly extradited to New York to face charges in a cocaine smuggling case. News of the younger man's arrest came as Suriname hosted UNASUR, a summit of South American nations. Bouterse, who has had frosty relations with the U.S. government over his own past — which includes presiding over a military dictatorship and being convicted in absentia in the Netherlands of drug trafficking — said the arrest was intended to "disrupt the UNASUR summit," though

he did not explain what or who might be behind it. The president said he had asked his fellow South American leaders not to discuss his son's case. "I wanted to avoid the Unasur being dragged into this whole matter," Bouterse told reporters.

Earlier, Melvin Linscheer, but his removal was never publicly announced. The president said his son left the counter-terrorism post because "he was sick and tired of all the commotion surrounding his appointment." Dino Bouterse faces a U.S. federal indictment alleging he worked with a man

ly diverse country of about 500,000 in May 2010 in a parliamentary vote after cobbling together a coalition that included former enemies in the country's bitter civil war. At the time, he was still a defendant in an off-again-on-again trial for the murder of 15 political opponents in 1982



Suriname's President Desi Bouterse stands in his hotel room as he waits for the arrival of leaders to a summit by the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) in Paramaribo, Suriname. The official welcome by Bouterse was delayed by several hours following the arrest of his son, Dino Bouterse, who faces U.S. drug and weapon charges. (AP Photo/Ertugrul Kilic)

director of Suriname's Office of National Security and a longtime Bouterse confidante, said that Dino Bouterse had quietly left his post at a counter-terrorism unit long before his arrest. Linscheer told state-owned Radio SRS that the son was removed amid public criticism of his appointment,

identified as Edmund Quincy Muntslag to smuggle cocaine into the United States. It also charges him with violating firearms laws by brandishing a light anti-tank weapon during the narcotics offense. He has pleaded not guilty. Desi Bouterse won the presidency of the ethnical-

and faced arrest at Netherlands' request following his conviction in absentia there for drug trafficking in 1999.

In April 2012, the president's supporters in parliament pushed through amnesty legislation that put the murder trial on indefinite hold. □

Mexico probing possible female vengeance killer

RICARDO CHAVEZ
Associated Press

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico
(AP) — Mexican prosecutors say they are looking into claims that a woman who killed two bus drivers last week in this northern border city was seeking revenge for alleged sexual abuse of female passengers. The claims made over the weekend in an email from the self-styled "bus driver hunter" echoed deeply in Ciudad Juarez, which has a grim history of sexual violence against women aboard buses.

A woman wearing a blond wig — or dyed hair — boarded one of the school bus-style vehicles that serve as transport in Ciudad Juarez on Wednesday morning. She approached the driver, took out a pistol, shot him in the head and left the bus. The next day, apparently the same woman did exactly the same thing to another driver on the same route.

Over the weekend, media outlets began receiving emails from the address "Diana the hunter of bus drivers." "I myself and other women have suffered in silence but we can't stay quiet anymore," the email said. "We were victims of sexual violence by the drivers on the night shift on the routes to the maquilas," a reference to the border assembly plants that employ many residents in Ciudad Juarez, across the border from El Paso, Texas. "I am the instrument of vengeance for several women." The newspaper Diario de Juarez reported that a witness quoted the killer as telling the second victim, "You guys think you're real bad, don't you?" before shooting him. □

Power blackouts hit nearly half of Venezuela

CARACAS, Venezuela
(AP) — A power outage hit nearly half of Venezuela on Tuesday, knocking out traffic lights and causing chaos in the streets of Caracas. Deputy Energy Minister Franco Silva said failures on several transmission lines were to blame for the blackout and told state TV

that nine of Venezuela's 23 states were affected. Venezuelans have been struggling with worsening blackouts for several years, but the capital is almost always spared.

President Nicolas Maduro said the oil industry, the lifeblood of the economy, was not affected by the

outage.

The capital's subway service was temporarily interrupted, and authorities evacuated riders from several trains.

Opposition politicians say the government hasn't invested enough in the electrical grid and generating plants to keep up with

growing demand.

Authorities say delays in several initiatives designed to boost electricity output are partly to blame. But they also have often suggested that government foes sabotaged the grid, and Maduro raised that as a possibility for Tuesday's blackout. □



“Christmas Gems 2013”....

Renaissance Convention Center presents its end-of-the-year theme

ORANJESTAD - It's that time of year again where Renaissance Convention Center introduces a special theme for their end of the year celebration. This year the Renaissance Aruba Resorts team selected “I love Christmas” as their holiday season theme.

During the presentation all guests got the opportunity to see the luxurious Christmas decoration presented by Renaissance Convention Center combined with a tremendous buffet that will be offered during the end of year season. Keeping in mind that every customer has its own taste, Renaissance has managed to compile a series of menus that surely will satisfy every



is different and has its own specialty. Prices vary and as usual Renaissance Convention Center gives the Christmas celebration in Aruba a special touch. The fabulous décor for this special theme was created and executed by the professional team of Renaissance Convention Center together with Mrs. Edwina Werleman. An invitation goes out to all who want to make their reservation for breakfast, lunch or dinner in the Renaissance Convention Center ballroom. Special packages and prices are available; each customer can choose the package that ‘fits’ their company or work group. Reservations can be made by calling; 523-6405 or 523-6404. □



special craving. In order to do so different buffet segments were created so every guest can create/choose their own dish. Guests can choose from the; ‘Emerald Menu’ or the ‘Ruby Menu’, ‘Sapphire Stations’ and the ‘Diamond Menu’. Every menu offers its own variety of bread, soups, salads, dessert station and a wide-ranging list of beverage. For those who really love their ‘holiday ham’ (Christmas ham) the popular ‘carving station’ will offer a delicious ‘ham di pasco’. Every menu



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EAGLE - Ling & Sons scores big with the bread festival "Real Bread, Real Love" Bread Festival" with customers more than happy to try the different freshly made breads the Ling & Sons bakery team pre-

pare every morning. An absolute favorite with visitors was the excellent variety of Dutch cheese Ling & Sons has to offer that are simply to die for. Customers were delighted to sample the different

sumptuous flavors for free during the bread festival! On the final day of the festival customers got a tremendous Breakfast & BBQ special that was simply phenomenal! Ling & Sons wants to thank

everyone for visiting the bread festival and especially its dedicated team that made this event an-

other great success! For more details visit facebook page "Ling and Sons IGA". □



Beauty On The Beach

Luz Maria and Andre Schueler

These girls are visiting Aruba and staying at The Amsterdam Manor. Luz Maria de Rio is from Argentina and Andree Schueler is from America.

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Mr. & Mrs. Kaasch return to Aruba for their first wedding anniversary

PALM BEACH - Jake and Lora Kaasch returned to the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino to celebrate their first wedding anniversary recently. The couple got married at the resort on May 25th of 2012, and have been in love with the island and resort ever since. Their wedding planner Ilaina Franco Franca became a close friend which is one

of the main reasons why they returned back to the resort. The lovebirds chose to stay at the hotel-within-a-hotel Tradewinds Club for a more exclusive and adults only experience for their first wedding celebration. The Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino looks forward to welcoming Mr. and Mrs. Kaasch back for many more years. □

Westin to host Aruba, Wine, Food & Art Festival VIII



PALM BEACH - The Westin Resort & Casino Aruba presents their annual Festival and it will be taking place on the 12th and 13th of September 2013. Thursday September 12, 2013 for the first time ever Aruba will have an Iron Chef and Iron Sommelier competition, between local celebrity Chefs. Competing Chefs are Scott Scheurman from Aqua Grill, Urvin Croes from White Modern Cuisine and Erwin Husken from Screaming Eagle. They will receive a Mystery

Basket of 4 items which they will then have a pre-determined amount of time to prepare an appetizer, main course and dessert. They will present their



creations to the Judges who will have the privilege of selecting the first Iron Chef of Aruba.

Tickets will be \$69 per person including service charge & BBO and will be available at the concierge desk at The Westin Resort & Casino, Aruba starting August 23, 2013. The evening will consist of a 3 course dinner prepared by our Celebrity Chefs. Each course will be served with 4 different wines, which will be provided by our partners Aruba Trading, Pepia Est., Romar Trading and

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event doors will be open at 7pm and you will be able to taste the student's food creations. During this event you will also have the chance to admire painting and sculptures of local artists. 10% of sold art work will be donated to a local charity. Our partners Aruba

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Azarenka rallies to 3-set U.S. Open win

RACHEL COHEN
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — No. 2 Victoria Azarenka rallied from a set down for the second straight match, beating Ana Ivanovic to return to the U.S. Open quarterfinals. The 2012 runner-up at Flushing Meadows needed 2 hours, 10 minutes to win 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 on Tuesday. "I'm a fighter at heart," she said. "I never, never give up. Whatever the score is, I'm going to try to do my best because there is always an opportunity. There is always a way. You just have to make up your mind and try to find that way."

Ivanovic, the 2008 French Open champ, was whipping forehand winners in the first set. But then her serve deserted her, as it has before, and the 13th-seeded Serb was broken in nine of her last 11 service games. "This was the big difference because I felt like I could break her, but it was very frustrating that I was losing my serve constantly," said Ivanovic, who had eight double-faults. Indeed, Azarenka wasn't much better, with nine double-faults of her own.



Victoria Azarenka, of Belarus, returns a shot to Ana Ivanovic, of Serbia, during the quarterfinals of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

Unable to serve out the match at 5-3 in the third set, Azarenka finally clinched the victory on her fourth match point. On Wednesday, she'll face unseeded Daniela Hantuchova, who played her fourth-round match Monday.

The meeting between Azarenka and Ivanovic was the only one of four women's matches that day to be postponed to Tuesday because of rain. Asked if anything could have been done differently to keep everybody on the same schedule, Azarenka wouldn't bite. She just smiled and said, "Mother Nature could have done something." A few hours after Azarenka made the quarterfinals, the first woman reached the semis. Fifth-seeded Li Na beat No. 24-seeded Ekaterina Makarova 6-4, 6-7 (5), 6-2 in 2 hours, 20 minutes.

Li, the 2011 French Open winner, was up a break three times in the second set, then led 3-0 in the tie-breaker, but couldn't close the victory. From 2-2 in the third, she won four straight games to reach her first U.S. Open semifinal.

Continued on Page 20



Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw works against the Colorado Rockies in the first inning of a baseball game in Denver on Monday, Sept. 2, 2013.

Associated Press

Kershaw hit hard, Dodgers top Rockies; Puig hurt

The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — Clayton Kershaw surrendered a career-high 11 hits in five shaky innings and got the win and Yasiel Puig scored the go-ahead run before leaving with a strained right knee as the surging Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Colorado Rockies 10-8 on Monday. NL Capsules Puig was called out for in-

terference on the bases in the first inning.

He then hurt his knee on an awkward slide into third base and gingerly jogged home on Hanley Ramirez's sacrifice fly in the sixth, before being replaced in right field.

Andre Ethier had three hits, including a two-run homer, as the Dodgers won their fifth straight. The NL West

leaders are 35-8 since the All-Star break.

Kershaw (14-8) gave up five runs as his ERA jumped from a league-leading 1.72 to 1.89.

He was productive at the plate, lining a two-run single.

Jeff Manship (0-5) took the loss in relief.

Continued on Next Page

NL Capsules

Continued from Page 18

PIRATES 5, BREWERS 2

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Neil Walker hit a three-run homer and Charlie Morton pitched seven strong innings as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat Milwaukee to retake the NL Central lead. The Pirates moved one game ahead of St. Louis. Pittsburgh won the opener of a nine-game road trip. Walker's homer made it 5-1 in the seventh.

Morton (7-3) gave up seven hits and one earned run. He won his fourth straight decision.

Mark Melancon pitched the ninth for his 10th save in 12 chances.

Tyler Thornburg (1-1) allowed two runs in six innings.

REDS 7, CARDINALS 2

CINCINNATI (AP) — Choo Shin-soo and Joey Votto homered as Cincinnati roughed up Adam Wainwright for the second start

in a row, leading Mat Latos and the Reds over the St. Louis Cardinals in the opener of a four-game series between the NL Central rivals. Latos (14-5) gave up four hits in his first complete game of the year. The Cardinals took two of three in St. Louis last week, the only loss coming when the Reds tagged Wainwright (15-9) for nine runs in a career-low two innings. They had his number again on Monday, piling up six runs and 10 hits in six innings.

PHILLIES 3, NATIONALS 2

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Carlos Ruiz hit a tiebreaking RBI single in Philadelphia's two-run eighth inning, helping the Phillies get the victory. Cesar Hernandez started the winning rally with a two-out walk against Tyler Clippard (6-3). He came around to score on Jimmy Rollins' double. After Chase

Utley was walked intentionally, Ruiz drove in Rollins with a single to left.

B.J. Rosenberg (1-0) recorded the final out of the eighth for the win and Jonathan Papelbon finished for his 24th save in 30 chances. The Nationals put runners on the corners with one out in the ninth, but Wilson Ramos was called out on strikes and Anthony Rendon struck out swinging to end the game.

Ryan Zimmerman homered for Washington, which had won nine of 12.

BRAVES 13, METS 5

ATLANTA (AP) — Freddie Freeman homered, doubled and tied a career high with five RBIs, powering the Atlanta Braves past the New York Mets.

Freeman put the Braves ahead with a two-run double off Daisuke Matsuzaka in the first inning. Freeman made it 6-1 with a three-run



Atlanta Braves first baseman Freddie Freeman celebrates after hitting a three-run home run in the second inning of a baseball game against the New York Mets, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

homer a dozen rows deep into the right-field seats in the second.

Jordan Schafer got four hits and stole three bases for Atlanta before leaving with a lower back strain. Andrelton Simmons drove in three runs.

The NL East leaders matched their season high for runs and have won seven of eight.

Paul Maholm (10-10)

snapped his four-game losing streak. Matsuzaka (0-3) lasted only three innings and has a 10.95 ERA in three starts since signing with the Mets.

BLUE JAYS 4, DIAMOND-BACKS 1

PHOENIX (AP) — Esmil Rogers pitched 6 1-3 innings of one-hit ball and Edwin Encarnacion hit his 35th home run to lead the Toronto Blue Jays over Arizona. □

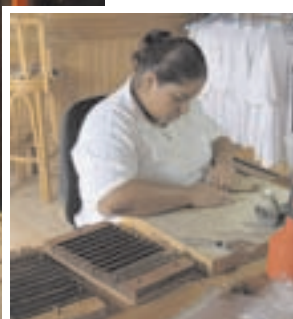
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U.S. Open

Continued from Page 18

The top-seeded man, Novak Djokovic, won the last 13 games to rout Marcel Granollers 6-3, 6-0, 6-0 in just 79 minutes and reach his 18th consecutive Grand Slam quarterfinal.

"I'm very happy with my mental state, how I feel physically, and the way I played,"

Djokovic said.

"It's definitely coming at the best possible time."

The 43rd-ranked Granollers was coming off three straight five-set matches. Djokovic, the 2011 champ, won the first 25 points on his serve and didn't face a break point until the final game.

He'll again meet a player coming off a five-setter. Mikhail Youzhny, seeded 21st, was two points from defeat but rallied to outlast Lleyton Hewitt 6-3, 3-6, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 7-5. Hewitt, the 2001 U.S. Open champ, was making a rousing run at age 32 after a slew of injuries.

Defending U.S. Open champ Andy Murray also plays Tuesday night, against unseeded Denis Is-

tomin.

Azarenka, the two-time Australian Open champion insisted she's not concerned by two straight slow starts.

She also lost the first set in the third round to 26th-seeded Alize Cornet before rallying for a 6-7 (2), 6-3, 6-2 win.

She's gotten into it with the chair umpire in two straight matches as well.

On Tuesday, it was over Ivanovic being awarded a winner, instead of the two replaying the point, after a delayed out call was overturned in the first set.

Azarenka looked sluggish after a late-morning start and didn't make her first winner until the sixth game. But Ivanovic has often wilted under pressure since her lone Grand Slam title more than five years ago; she hasn't been back to a major semifinal since.

Azarenka started winning points on drops shots — she said she's always had that in her repertoire but just hadn't need them much before.

There were five straight



Novak Djokovic, of Serbia, returns a shot at the net to Marcel Granollers, of Spain, during the fourth round of the 2013 U.S. Open tennis tournament, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, in New York.

Associated Press

breaks to open the second set.

After Ivanovic double-faulted on break point for the second straight service game, Azarenka finally held to lead 4-2.

The start of the third set was much of the same. Azarenka held in the first game, then there were four straight breaks.

Azarenka preferred to joke about the two players' serving struggles:

"I think we're just great returners."

Azarenka had two match points while serving at 5-3 but wasted both with backhand errors.

The way Ivanovic was serving, though, Azarenka was still in prime position to close the match, and sure enough, she broke Ivanovic again in the next game to advance.

It took 2 hours, 10 minutes, but the 2012 U.S. Open runner-up wasn't going to fret about her uneven play.

"If I have to fight and dig deep to find a way not playing at your best against a player who was playing that good," Azarenka said, "I think it's pretty remarkable to walk off the court with a win." □

Golfing great Nancy Lopez has book deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Golfing great Nancy Lopez has a book deal.

Lopez has an agreement with HarperOne, a division of HarperCollins Publishers, for a memoir scheduled to be published in June. HarperOne announced the deal Tuesday and says the book is currently untitled.

The 56-year-old Lopez will write of her lifelong involvement with golf, from her first set of clubs at age 8 to her

dozens of tournament victories and rise to international fame.

HarperOne promises previously unknown details of her public and private life, including her 27-year marriage to baseball star Ray Knight. They divorced in 2009.

Lopez says in a statement that she was at a stage in her life where she ready to reflect on the good "and, yes, difficult times." □



In this June 22, 2007 file photo, Nancy Lopez watches her tee shot on the third hole during the second round of the Wegmans LPGA golf tournament at Locust Hill Country Club in Pittsford, N.Y.

Associated Press

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AL Capsules

Athletics pull into tie with Texas atop AL West

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Coco Crisp hit a tie-breaking two-run homer in the fifth that was confirmed by a video review as the Oakland Athletics pulled into a first-place tie with Texas atop the American League West by beating the Rangers 4-2 on Monday.

Yoenis Cespedes homered leading off the second inning and Chris Young added an RBI single in Oakland's fourth straight win.

Crisp set a career high with his 17th homer that stayed just fair of the left-field foul pole, topping his 16 for Cleveland in 2005. He fouled a ball off the area below his right knee in the sixth. He stayed in and struck out, and then was removed for what the team called a shin contusion.

Dan Straily (8-7) won back-to-back starts for the first time since early July and Grant Balfour got three outs for his 36th save.

David Murphy hit a tying two-run shot in the Texas fifth for his first homer since Aug. 1. Rangers starter Derek Holland (9-7) allowed four runs, three earned, and five hits in 4 2-3 innings. **TIGERS 3, RED SOX 0**

BOSTON (AP) — Doug Fister rebounded from a miserable start with seven sharp innings, helping Detroit beat Boston in a matchup of teams with the AL's best records.

The Tigers won despite missing Miguel Cabrera for the third straight game. He has been sidelined by a strained abdomen, though general manager Dave Dombrowski said the Triple Crown winner has been more hampered by a groin problem.

The AL Central-leading Ti-

gers won for the fourth time in five games.

Fister (12-7) allowed four hits, struck out four and walked four. Jose Veras worked the ninth for his 21st save and second with the Tigers, finishing the six-hit shutout.

John Lackey (8-12) was the tough-luck loser, giving up three runs and seven hits over 7 1-3 innings.

ANGELS 11, RAYS 2

ANAHEIM, California (AP) — Garrett Richards worked around a career-high seven walks over five innings and Erick Aybar drove in four runs for the surging Angels.

Richards (5-6) gave up a run and two hits while striking out six in the opener of a four-game series. The seven walks matched Richards' total from his previous five starts combined, but the Rays stranded eight runners while he was in the game and 12 altogether.

Ben Zobrist drove in both of Tampa Bay's runs with a first-inning homer and a sixth-inning single. The Rays have lost five straight and eight of nine to fall 6½ games behind AL East-leading Boston.

Rookie Chris Archer (8-6) threw 90 pitches in 3 2-3 innings, giving up five runs and nine hits in a rematch of his 4-1 victory against Richards last Wednesday. The right-hander's outing was the second-shortest of his 22 big league starts.

The Angels have won nine of 10.

ORIOLES 7, INDIANS 2

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bud Norris stayed unbeaten as a starter with Baltimore and Nate McLouth homered and had three RBIs. Norris (10-10) allowed one run — a homer to Jason Kipnis — and four hits in

seven innings. The right-hander improved to 4-0 as a starter with the Orioles, who acquired him at the July 31 trading deadline from Houston. He lost once in relief. Matt Wieters hit a two-run homer in the ninth and Brian Roberts drove in two runs for the Orioles, who came in three games behind Oakland and Tampa Bay in the wild-card race. The Indians lost for the sixth time in seven games and could be without All-Star Justin Masterson (14-10) for the most important stretch of their season. Masterson left in the second with soreness in his left side.

YANKEES 9, WHITE SOX 1

NEW YORK (AP) — Derek Jeter ended a slump with two hits and two RBIs and



Oakland Athletics' Coco Crisp, center, is congratulated by third base coach Mike Gallego (2) after Crisp hit a two run home run off Texas Rangers' Derek Holland in the fifth inning of a baseball game, Monday, Sept. 2, 2013, in Oakland, Calif. At right, Rangers manager Ron Washington runs onto the field to talk with umpires.

Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez reached base twice in an eight-run fourth inning as the Yankees beat the White Sox in a game interrupted for nearly two hours by rain. □



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By: Dr. Carlos Viana

Aging is a natural process. I, as with all Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Physicians, believe this process of life should be respected. Although we know the risk of disease and disability increase as we get older, poor health is not an inevitable consequence of aging.

Preventative medicine originated with TCM. We consider traditional preventative health methods that support the body, mind and spirit and therefore lower risk of illness before it deteriorates into poor health to be good age management. I believe good health begins in the womb and becomes increasingly more important as we age. Accordingly, though I work with people of all ages, I call myself an age-management physician.

Throughout the middle and later years, people gradually develop signs and symptoms we associate with aging, like graying and thinning of the hair, ringing in the ears, hearing loss, infertility, diminished sexual function, menopause, forgetfulness, urinary and bowel incontinence, pain and weakness in the lower back, hip, and knees, reduced bone density, and increased risk of fractures.

Western medicine attributes some of these symptoms to deficiencies in

sexual hormones such as estrogen and testosterone, which is why hormone replacement has become a focus of "anti-aging" medicine.

TCM offers a different perspective. From a TCM standpoint, aging is a process of losing kidney Chi or energy. I don't mean just the kidney as an organ, but also an energy system called the kidney meridian. Chinese and other traditional philosophies, believe the body, which is made up of energy, has meridians or lines which this energy runs through the body, similar like blood runs through our veins. To age healthfully, people need to protect their kidney Chi and as early as possible. The primary intervention of TCM is to balance your energy meridians through acupuncture, lifestyle and dietary supplements. Things that help include, getting enough restful sleep, regular physical activity, doing something you are passionate about and eating a healthy diet.

As a Clinical nutritionist, I know that our food is not the natural food of our parents today and therefore supplementing is essential. However, not all supplements are equal. I'm always looking for the right combination and highest quality of vitamins, minerals and herbs that have the best absorption for the body. This is especially important for age-management. Keeping your immune system in top shape is critical in protecting against premature aging.

People, who know me, know that I always rec-

ommend as my basic supplements, Vitamin C, Magnesium, Zinc and Lecithin. At the first sign of a sniffle I used to give my sons vitamin C and zinc. Julio and Fernando are grown and are on their own now, but they still use this powerful combination he boost their immune system. It seems this advice is filtering down to Western medicine. Last year I read in the Journal of International Medical Research, a paper titled "A combination of high-dose vitamin C plus zinc for the common cold" that reported "In view of the burden associated with the common cold, supplementation with vitamin C plus zinc may represent an efficacious measure, with a good safety profile, against this infectious viral disease." We nutritionists knew that, now you do too.

Beyond, the basics, for extra immune protection, the World's Most Researched Immune Supplement is called Active Hexose Correlated Compound (AHCC). AHCC has been shown in hospital trials and in scientific research to increase activity of white blood cells (the cells that fight the "bad guys") in your immune system by 300%! Breaking down toxic substances and helping filter harmful substances from the blood, AHCC supports your liver's detoxification function. By helping maintain proper levels of glucose in the blood AHCC actually helps with insulin resistance. Insulin resistance is a sure sign of diabetes and other "age associated" problems.

I learned of a wonderful immune boosting

herb while interning for my TCM degree in Shanghai. In Lang Hau hospital we would use the herb, Chuan Xin Lian, to help boost patients' immune defense. The botanical name is Andrographis paniculata and it is used traditionally to treat infections and a long list of illnesses and conditions, both in the East and West.

Several years ago, women were coming to clinic that had developed diabetes while pregnant and other pregnant women who had high blood pressure. Vitamin D is synthesized from exposure to sunlight and since Aruba is so close to the equator, for many years, I had assumed that there was impossible for anyone living in sunny climates to be vitamin D deficient. However, when I tested a variety of us, of all ages and body types, who were actively being exposed to strong sunlight, I was shocked to learn we were indeed vitamin D deficient.

Vitamin D deficiency has been linked to increased risk of viral infections. It has been proposed that lack of vitamin D synthesis is one explanation for high rates of influenza infection during the winter. So, theoretically those of us living in tropical sunlight should not get the flu easily. However, the reality is much different. Since research and my own findings, I prescribe vitamin D3 to many patients, especially if they get sick easily and are older.

Get The Point! Aging is a natural process of life, and healthy aging is achievable, through integrating the best of tradi-

tional medicine with cutting edge science. We are lucky today, that science is able to combine some of the best immune support products today for easy, safe, use. If you have medical concerns, or just want a program tailored to you, consult with a doctor trained in age-management and nutrition to help you choose the right products and develop an individual plan. The earlier you start your age-management the better your chances of enjoying a healthy long life.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site:

www.vianaheal.com

Dr. Viana's Award Winning BOOK: Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine – Available at local Bookstores, Hotel Gift shops and Boticas. Signed copies at Viana Healing Center, EBooks: Amazon kindle, Nook, iTunes check for Events at: [facebook.com/vianahealingcenter](https://www.facebook.com/vianahealingcenter).

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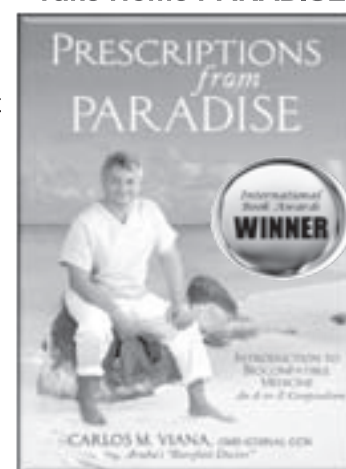
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Hackers find weaknesses in car computer systems

TOM KRISHER
AP Auto Writer

DETROIT (AP) — As cars become more like PCs on wheels, what's to stop a hacker from taking over yours?

In recent demonstrations, hackers have shown they can slam a car's brakes at freeway speeds, jerk the steering wheel and even shut down the engine — all from their laptop computers.

The hackers are publicizing their work to reveal vulnerabilities present in a growing number of car computers. All cars and trucks contain anywhere from 20 to 70 computers. They control everything from the brakes to acceleration to the windows, and are connected to an internal network. A few hackers have recently managed to find their way into these intricate networks.

In one case, a pair of hackers manipulated two cars by plugging a laptop into a port beneath the dashboard where mechanics connect their computers to search for problems. Scarier yet, another group took control of a car's computers through cellular telephone and Bluetooth connections, the compact disc player and even the tire pressure monitoring system.

To be sure, the "hackers" involved were well-intentioned computer security experts, and it took both groups months to break

into the computers. And there have been no real-world cases of a hacker remotely taking over a car. But experts say high-tech hijackings will get easier as automakers give them full Internet access and add computer-controlled safety devices that take over driving duties, such as braking or steering, in emergencies. Another possibility: A tech-savvy thief could unlock the doors and drive off with your vehicle.

"The more technology they add to the vehicle, the more opportunities there are for that to be abused for nefarious purposes," says Rich Mogull, CEO of Phoenix-based Securosis, a security research firm. "Anything with a computer chip in it is vulnerable, history keeps showing us."

In the last 25 years, automakers have gradually computerized functions such as steering, braking, accelerating and shifting. Electronic gas pedal position sensors, for instance, are more reliable than the old throttle cables. Electronic parts also reduce weight and help cars use less gasoline.

The networks of little computers inside today's cars are fertile ground for hackers.

Charlie Miller, a St. Louis-based security engineer for Twitter, and fellow hacker Chris Valasek, director of intelligence at a Pittsburgh computer security consulting firm, maneuvered their

way into the computer systems of a 2010 Toyota Prius and 2010 Ford Escape through a port used by mechanics.

"We could control steering, braking, acceleration to a certain extent, seat belts, lights, horn, speedometer, gas gauge," said Valasek. The two used a federal grant to expose the vulnerability of car computers. Even with their expertise, it took them nine months to get in.

Valasek and Miller released a report, including instructions on how to break into the cars' networks, at a hacker convention in August. They said they did so to draw attention to the problems and get automakers to fix them. The pair say automakers haven't added security to the ports.

Ford wouldn't comment other than a statement saying it takes security seriously, and that Miller and Valasek needed physical access to the cars to hack in.

Toyota said it has added security and continually tests it to stay ahead of hackers. The company said its computers are programmed to recognize rogue commands and reject them.

Two years ago, researchers at the University of Washington and University of California, San Diego did more extensive work, hacking their way into a 2009 midsize car through



In this Feb. 9, 2010 file photo, master diagnostic technician Kurt Juergens, of Foxborough, Mass., uses a laptop computer to diagnose and repair the brake system on a 2010 Toyota Prius in the repair shop of a Toyota dealership, in Norwood, Mass.

A pair of hackers maneuvered their way into the computer systems of a 2010 Toyota Prius and 2010 Ford Escape through a port used by mechanics. The hackers showed that they could slam on the brakes at freeway speeds, jerk the steering wheel or even shut down the engine, all from their laptop computers. The work demonstrates vulnerabilities with the growing number of car computers, about 20 on older models and up to 70 on sophisticated luxury cars.

Associated Press

its cellular, Bluetooth and other wireless connections — even the CD player.

Stefan Savage, a UCSD computer science professor, said he and other researchers could control nearly everything but the car's steering. "We could have turned the brakes off. We could have killed the engine. We could have engaged the brakes," he said.

Savage wouldn't identify which manufacturer made the car they hacked into. But two people with knowledge of the work said the car was from General Motors and the researchers compromised the OnStar safety system, best known for using cellular technol-

ogy to check on customers and call for help in a crash. The people didn't want to be identified because they were not authorized to speak publicly on the matter.

GM wouldn't comment on the research, but the company issued a statement saying it takes security seriously and is putting strategies in place to reduce risk. One of the people said GM engineers initially dismissed the researchers' work, but after reading the report, quickly moved to close holes that allowed access to the car's computers.

Savage doesn't think common criminals will be able to electronically seize control of cars anytime soon. □

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Stock gains are held in check by Syria uncertainty

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The stock market logged modest gains Tuesday as renewed worries about a U.S.-led attack on Syria dampened an early rally.

Stocks surged in the opening minutes of trading as worries of an imminent attack on Syria appeared slimmer after President Barack Obama announced over the weekend that he would seek congressional approval for a strike.

The stock market gave much of its early gain after the top Republican in Congress said he would support President Obama's call for the U.S. to take action.

Speaking in the late morning, House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner said the use of chemical weapons must be responded to.

"Key Republicans seem to agree with Obama on Syria," said JJ Kinahan, chief derivatives strategist for TD Ameritrade.

"It puts us in a difficult situation as to what might happen from here."

The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 23.65 points, or 0.2 percent, to 14,833.96. The index had climbed as much as 123 points in early trading.

The Dow was held back by Microsoft and Verizon, which both slumped after announcing deal news.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 6.80 points, or 0.4 percent, to 1,639.77. The Nasdaq composite climbed 22.74 points, or 0.6 percent, to 3,612.

The stock market also got an early boost from a report showing that U.S. manufacturing expanded last month at the fastest pace since June 2011.

The report was better than

economist had expected, according to estimates compiled by data provider FactSet.

In corporate news, CBS surged \$2.40, or 2.7 percent, to \$53.50 after the broadcaster and Time Warner Cable reached an agreement that ended a blackout of CBS and CBS-

Stocks may struggle to rally in September, said Randy Frederick, managing director of active trading and derivatives at the Schwab Center for Financial Research.

The S&P 500 logged its worst month in over a year in August as investors fretted about when the Fed-

Political wrangling in Washington shook financial markets in August 2011, when lawmakers fought over raising the debt ceiling. That led the rating agency Standard & Poor's to strip the U.S. of its triple-A credit rating.

"All these catalysts out there ... are still there,"



Traders work on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange in New York, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. The stock market started September with a rally Tuesday, which faded in the afternoon on worries of an imminent U.S. attack on Syria. (AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

owned channels such as Showtime.

Microsoft fell \$1.52, or 4.6 percent, to \$31.88 after the software company said it would pay \$7.2 billion to acquire Nokia's smartphone business and a portfolio of patents and services. Microsoft is trying to capture a slice of the lucrative mobile computing market that is currently dominated by Apple and Google, and investors are concerned that Microsoft won't succeed.

Verizon fell \$1.37, or 2.9 percent, to \$46.01 after the company agreed to pay \$130 billion for the 45 percent stake in Verizon Wireless owned by British cell-phone carrier Vodafone.

eral Reserve will cut its economic stimulus. The Fed's next meeting, which starts Sept. 17, is when many on Wall Street think the central bank will begin winding down its massive bond-buying program.

Lawmakers in Washington may also throw investors a curve ball.

To keep the government running, Congress needs to pass a short-term spending bill before the fiscal year starts Oct. 1. Then there's the government's \$16.7 trillion borrowing limit. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew warned that, unless it's raised soon, the government would lose the ability to pay all of its bills by the middle of October.

said Frederick. "There's just not enough upside catalysts, and there's plenty of downside catalysts."

September has often been a losing month for the stock market. Since 1945, the S&P 500 index has slumped nearly six out of every 10 Septembers, with an average loss of 0.6 percent.

In government bond trading, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note climbed to 2.86 percent from 2.79 percent Friday. U.S. markets were closed Monday for Labor Day.

In commodities trading, the price of oil rose 89 cents, or 0.8 percent, to \$108.54. The price of gold rose \$15.90, or 1.1 percent, to \$1,412 an ounce. □

US shareholder could shudder Smithfield sale

M. FELBERBAUM
AP Business Writer

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP)—One of Smithfield Foods Inc.'s largest shareholders said Tuesday that it plans to vote against the pork producer's proposed takeover by China's largest meat producer because it wants more time to seek other offers that would provide greater shareholder value. New York-based investment firm Starboard Value LP, which owns about 5.7 percent of Smithfield's common stock, sent a letter to the Smithfield, Virginia-based company's shareholders Tuesday saying it intends to vote against the deal struck with Shuanghui International Holdings Ltd. at a scheduled Sept. 24 meeting in Richmond.

Also on Tuesday, Shuanghui announced that it has secured about \$4 billion in financing for the deal in which Smithfield will sell itself for \$34 per share, or \$4.7 billion. The deal, which is expected to close by the end of the year, would be the largest takeover of a U.S. company by a Chinese firm, valued at about \$7.1 billion including debt. It still requires approval of the federal Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, which reviews overseas transactions for national-security implications. Smithfield's stock will no longer be publicly traded once the deal closes. Smithfield has promoted the deal as opening the door to substantial increases in exports to China, but critics have voiced worry about persistent problems with food safety in China.

In the letter Tuesday, Starboard said it has received written interest from other parties to buy Smithfield's assets at a higher value than being offered under the current proposal. While the firm has come "quite a long way," it needs more time to put the alternative proposal together. Starboard said it hopes its vote will compel Smithfield to delay the shareholder meeting so that it can have more time. □

Verizon: "Never seriously looked" at Canada

ROB GILLIES
Associated Press

TORONTO (AP)—The top executive of Verizon says the U.S. wireless giant "never really seriously looked" at entering the Canadian market. There had been reports that Verizon would

bid on two smaller wireless companies in Canada and on wireless spectrum. Verizon CEO Lowell McAdam said Tuesday any plan is "off the table at this point." Shares in Canada's big three telecom companies surged on the news.

Shares of Rogers jumped almost 7 percent, BCE rose 4 percent, and Telus surged 7 percent. The companies complained Verizon would be given an unfair advantage to bid on spectrum. The Canadian government wants to introduce more

competition. Canadians have long complained of expensive wireless plans and poor service.

Verizon announced it is buying the 45 percent of its wireless business owned by British cellphone carrier Vodafone. □

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Microsoft gambles with \$7.2B Nokia phone deal

MATTI HUUHTANEN

Associated Press

HELSINKI (AP) — Microsoft is wagering \$7.2 billion on the idea that owning Nokia's phone business will help the software giant grab a bigger slice of the mobile computing market from Apple and Google.

The Windows maker is buying Nokia Corp.'s line-up of smartphones and a portfolio of patents and services. The 5.44 billion euros (\$7.2 billion) deal, announced late Monday, marks a major step in the company's push to transform itself from a software maker focused on desktop and laptop computers into a more versatile and nimble company that delivers services on any kind of Internet-connected gadget.

But some analysts questioned whether buying up the mobile business of Nokia, the fading star of the cellphone world, would aid Microsoft.

"Until there are signs that (Microsoft) can innovate and successfully execute in the post-PC era, we expect the stock to languish at current levels," said Janney analysts Yun Kim and Alice Hur.

"We do not believe the planned acquisition of (Nokia's) mobile business changes (Microsoft's) strategic positioning in the smartphone market."

Microsoft's shares fell \$1.64, or 4.9 percent, to \$31.76 in afternoon trading in the U.S. on Tuesday.

Microsoft, based in Redmond, Wash., has been racing to catch up with customers who are increas-

ingly pursuing their digital lives on smartphones and tablet computers rather than traditional PCs. The shift is weakening Microsoft, which has dominated the PC software market for the past 30 years, and empowering Apple Inc., the maker of the trend-setting iPhone and iPad, and Google Inc., which gives away the world's most popular mobile operating system, Android.

Microsoft is now betting it will have a better chance of narrowing the gap with its rivals if it seizes complete control over how mobile devices work with its Windows software.

"It's a bold step into the future — a win-win for employees, shareholders and consumers of both companies," Microsoft CEO Steven Ballmer told reporters at Nokia's headquarters in Finland Tuesday. "It's a signature event."

But speaking to investors and analysts later Tuesday, Ballmer admitted that the company still has to play catch-up with the likes of Apple and Android.

"We know we need to accelerate. We're not confused about that," he said.

"We need to be a company that provides a family of devices."

Nokia, based in Espoo, near the Finnish capital, and Microsoft have been trying to make inroads in the smartphone market as part of a partnership forged in 2011. Under the alliance, Nokia's Lumia smartphones have run on Microsoft's Windows software, but those devices haven't managed to com-

pete with iPhone or the array of Android-powered devices spearheaded by Samsung Electronics' smartphones and tablets. Terry Myerson, Microsoft Executive Vice-President of Operating Systems, admitted on a call to investors Tuesday that the message

Stephen Elop, who left Microsoft in 2010 to become Nokia CEO, will step down as president and CEO of the company to become executive vice president of Nokia devices and services and will rejoin Microsoft once the acquisition closes.

turned to understand all the possible alternatives for the company going forward," said Siilasmaa, who will be Nokia's interim CEO. Investors in Nokia welcomed the deal, sending shares in the company up 34 percent to 3.97 euros in Helsinki.



Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer speaks during the press conference of the Finnish mobile manufacturer Nokia in Espoo, Finland on Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. Microsoft has announced Tuesday a takeover of the Finnish mobile phone company in a deal reported to be worth some 5.44 billion euros (US\$ 7.2 billion).

(AP Photo /Markku Ulander)

about company's products hasn't been getting through to consumers and that "marketing approaches we've used in the past have been inefficient."

The acquisition is being made at the same time that Microsoft is looking for a new leader. Just 10 days ago, Ballmer, 57, announced he will step down as CEO within the next year.

The deal has fueled speculation that Elop, a former Microsoft executive, will emerge as a top candidate to succeed Ballmer. Nokia board chairman Risto Siilasmaa told reporters that they had been preparing the deal since February.

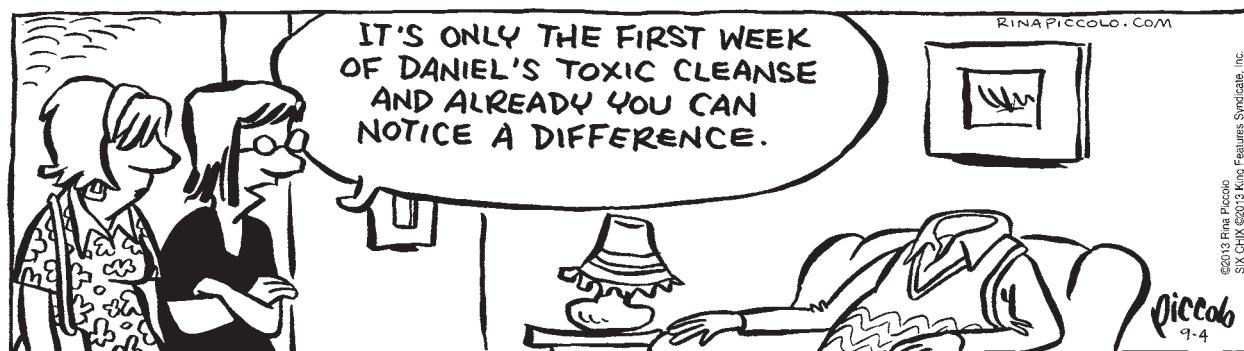
"It's been an extremely pragmatic and deeply analytical process where we have left no stone un-

Microsoft hopes to complete the deal early next year. If that timetable pans out, about 32,000 Nokia employees will transfer to Microsoft, which currently has about 99,000 workers. The proposed price consists of 3.79 billion euros (\$5 billion) for the Nokia unit that makes mobile phones, including its line of Lumia smartphones that run Windows Phone software. □

Mutts



6 Chix



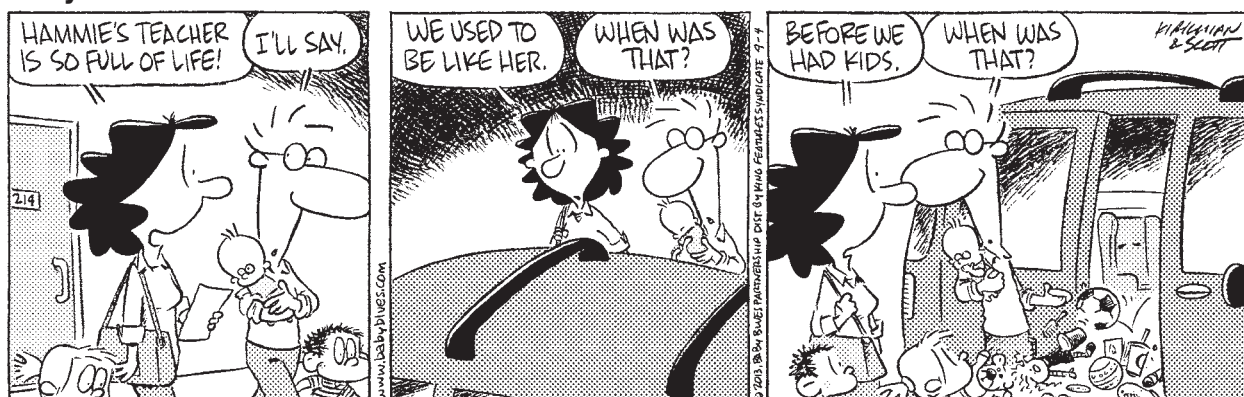
Blondie



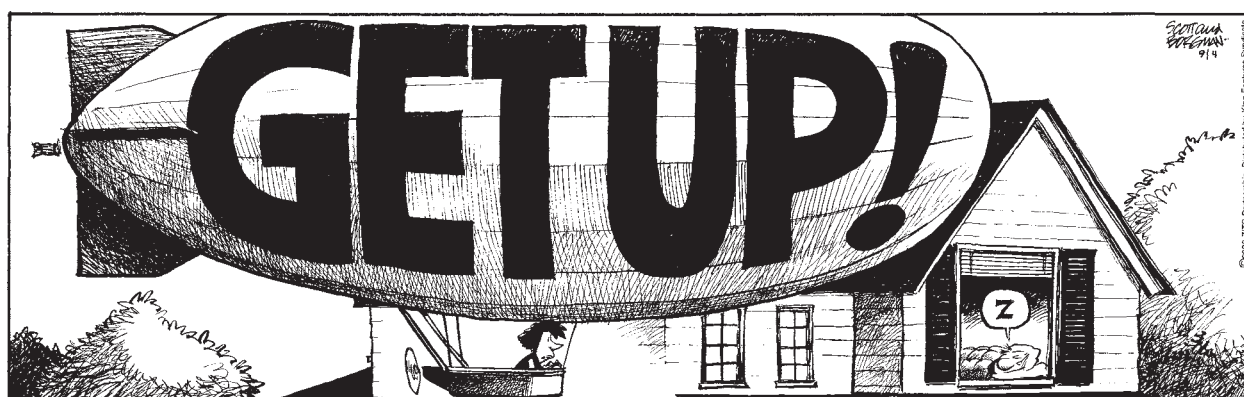
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			7	5	6			
		4				1		
		8				2		
	9	5	2	1	4	6	7	
	8						9	
	4			7			1	
	2			8			3	
	1						8	
		7	3	9	1	5		

Difficulty Level ★★

9/04

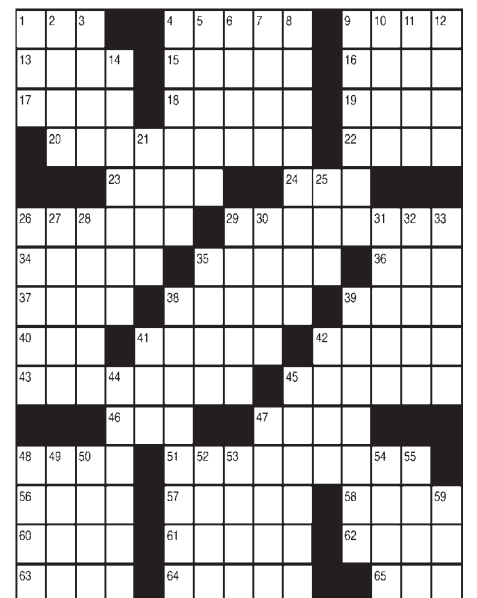
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	6	3	4	1	8	9	7	2
9	7	8	2	6	5	1	3	4
2	1	4	9	7	3	8	5	6
4	8	1	5	9	7	6	2	3
3	2	6	1	8	4	5	9	7
7	9	5	3	2	6	4	8	1
6	3	7	8	5	1	2	4	9
8	4	9	6	3	2	7	1	5
1	5	2	7	4	9	3	6	8

ACROSS

- 1 Greek letter
- 4 Deep breaths of relief
- 9 Married woman
- 13 Assists
- 15 Scout group
- 16 Brass instrument
- 17 Scheme
- 18 Synagogue leader
- 19 Had debts
- 20 Long-standing practice handed down
- 22 Feed bag morsels
- 23 Cook in the oven
- 24 Siesta
- 26 Taxi driver
- 29 Zestiest, as food
- 34 Wight & Capri
- 35 Barely sufficient
- 36 By way of
- 37 Breathed one's last
- 38 Street talk
- 39 Biden, for short
- 40 Sullivan and Koch
- 41 Not tactful
- 42 Door part
- 43 Saviors
- 45 Room warmer
- 46 Years lived
- 47 Drape puller
- 48 Piece of concrete
- 51 Supreme; utmost
- 56 TV sitcom for Judd Hirsch
- 57 Clear the slate
- 58 Nag
- 60 Break __; have neither a gain nor a loss
- 61 Name for a dog
- 62 Bleachers level
- 63 Church service
- 64 Holey cheese
- 65 Actor __ G. Carroll



Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

DOWN

- 1 Dr. Dre's music
- 2 Sword handle
- 3 Smell
- 4 Hit
- 5 Very angry
- 6 Asian desert
- 7 Bum
- 8 Twirling
- 9 Ms. Goldberg
- 10 Cedar Rapids' state
- 11 Worry
- 12 Finishes
- 14 Pierced with a knife
- 21 Speaker's platform
- 25 Performance
- 26 Apple drink
- 27 Put __; shelve
- 28 Consecrate
- 29 Reads quickly
- 30 Breathe heavily
- 31 Happening
- 32 Prolonged attack
- 33 __ off; diminish gradually

BURST	SPAT	ALDA
INANE	MICE	SEAR
TIGER	ITEM	SAND
STEAMERS	PRESTO	
KINK	PLUSHER	
CHASTE	POEMS	
AUG	EMBER	PORTS
SLOP	YODEL	RARE
SAGAS	RADAR	PEA
STEEL	BASSET	
MUSTARD	TOGO	
ENTIRE	MARGINAL	
ADAM	CRAB	ERASE
LURE	TOMB	DESKS
SETS	STAY	YEAST

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- 35 Insult
- 38 Pullman cars
- 39 Long elevated roadway
- 41 Insect
- 42 Long sandwich
- 44 Log houses
- 45 Four-baggers
- 47 Valises
- 48 Flower stalk
- 49 Etna's output
- 50 Chopping tools
- 52 In __; lined up
- 53 Sitar player __ Shankar
- 54 Tack
- 55 Cedar or willow
- 59 Expert

London: Skyscraper accused of melting Jaguar



The 37-storey skyscraper at 20 Fenchurch Street, which is still under construction in the City of London, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013. Developers for an unfinished skyscraper in central London say they are investigating the way the building reflects bright sunlight _ after claims that the intense glare melted parts of a car parked nearby. (AP Photo/PA, Andy Scofield)

GREGORY KATZ
SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — Motorists may want to think twice about parking in front of the half-built London skyscraper known as the Walkie-Talkie.

That's because the glare off the skin of the new building is so intense that at least one Jaguar owner says it caused part of his vehicle to melt.

And that's not all: Locals say the building's heat also burned a hole in the

welcome mat of a barber shop across the street. "We were working and just saw the smoke coming out of the carpet," said shop owner Ali Akay. "This is a health and safety issue. They should have looked into this before they built it." Similar problems have plagued other modern buildings, including in Los Angeles, when neighbors of the Frank Gehry-designed Walt Disney Concert Hall reported heat buildups that required corrective measures. □

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Women in Difficulties

Foundation

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Bloodbank Aruba

Tel: 587-0002

Japan to fund ice wall to contain reactor leaks

MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The Japanese government announced Tuesday that it will spend \$470 million on a subterranean ice wall and other steps in a desperate bid to stop leaks of radioactive water from the crippled Fukushima nuclear plant after repeated failures by the plant's operator.

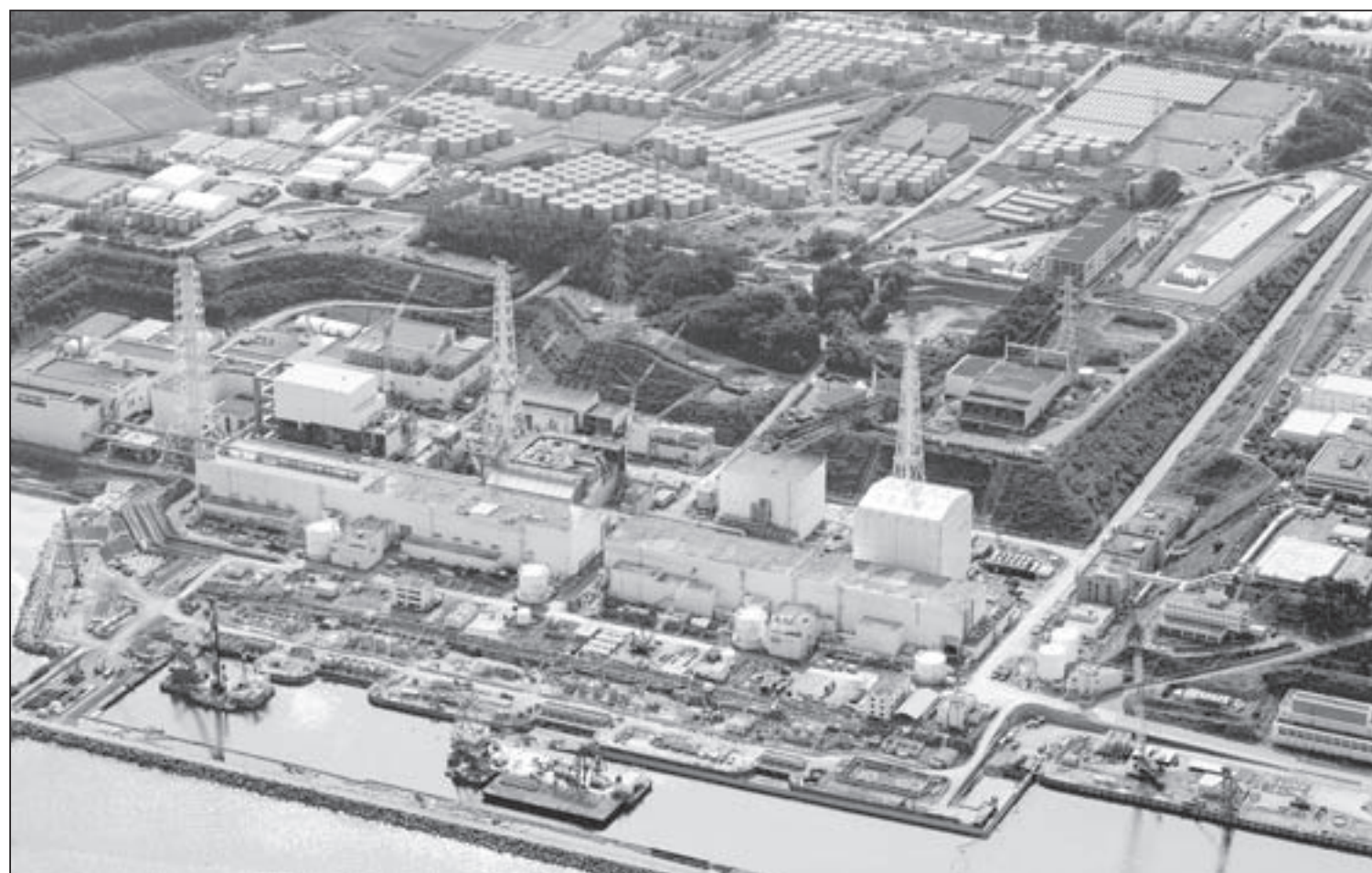
The decision is widely seen as an attempt to show that the nuclear accident won't be a safety concern just days before the International Olympic Committee chooses among Tokyo, Istanbul and Madrid as the host of the 2020 Olympics. The Fukushima Dai-ichi plant has been leaking hundreds of tons of contaminated underground water into the sea since shortly after a massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami damaged the complex. Several leaks from tanks

storing radioactive water in recent weeks have heightened the sense of crisis that the plant's owner, Tokyo Electric Power Co., isn't able to contain the problem.

"Instead of leaving this up to TEPCO, the government will step forward and take charge," Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said after adopting the outline. "The world is watching if we can properly handle the contaminated water but also the entire decommissioning of the plant."

The government plans to spend an estimated 47 billion yen (\$470 million) through the end of March 2015 on two projects — 32 billion yen (\$320 million) on the ice wall and 15 billion yen (\$150 million) on an upgraded water treatment unit that is supposed to remove all radioactive elements except water-soluble tritium — according to energy agency official Tatsuya Shinkawa.

The government, however, is not paying for urgently needed water tanks and other equipment that TEPCO is using to contain leaks. Shinkawa said the funding is limited to "tech-



This aerial photo taken on Aug. 31, 2013, shows the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant at Okuma in Fukushima prefecture, northern Japan.

nologically challenging projects" but the government is open to additional help when needed.

The ice wall would freeze the ground to a depth of up to 30 meters (100 feet) through a system of pipes carrying a coolant as cold as minus 40 degrees Celsius (minus 40 Fahrenheit). That would block contaminated water from escaping from the facility's immediate surroundings, as well as keep underground water from entering the reactor and turbine buildings, where much of the radioactive water has collected.

The project, which TEPCO and the government proposed in May, is being tested for feasibility by Japanese construction giant Kajima Corp. and is set for completion by March 2015. Similar methods have been used to block water from parts of tunnels and subways, but building a 1.4-kilometer (0.9-mile) wall that surrounds four reactor buildings and their related facilities is unprecedented. An underground ice wall has been used to isolate radioactive waste at the U.S. Department of Energy's former site of the Oak Ridge

National Laboratory in Tennessee that produced plutonium, but only for six years, according to the MIT Technology Review magazine.

Some experts are still skeptical about the technology and say the running costs would be a huge burden. Atsunao Marui, an underground water expert at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, said a frozen wall could be water-tight but is normally intended for use for a few years and is not proven for long-term use as planned in the outline. The decommissioning process is expected to take about 40 years.

"We still need a few layers of safety backups in case it fails," Marui told The Associated Press. "Plus the frozen wall won't be ready for another two years, which means contaminated water would continue to leak out."

Marui said additional measures should be taken to stop contaminated water from traveling under the seabed during that time and leaking further out at sea.

TEPCO has been pump-

ing water into the wrecked reactors to cool nuclear fuel that melted when the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami knocked out the plant's power and cooling systems. The utility has built more than 1,000 tanks holding 335,000 tons of contaminated water at the plant, and the amount grows by 400 tons daily. Some tanks have sprung leaks, spilling contaminated water onto the ground. After spending on the ice wall, the remainder of the public funding — 15 billion yen until March 2015 — will go to the development and production of a water treatment unit that can treat larger amounts of contaminated water more thoroughly than an existing machine, which is under repair after corrosion was found during a test run.

Nuclear Regulation Authority Chairman Shunichi Tanaka has repeatedly said that the contaminated water cannot be stored in tanks forever and eventually must be released into the sea after being fully processed and diluted, but only with local consent.

Other measures include replacing rubber-seamed

storage tanks with more durable welded tanks as quickly as possible, and pumping out untainted underground water further inland for release into the sea to reduce the total amount of water flowing into the plant site. About 1,000 tons of underground water runs into the complex every day.

TEPCO is also constructing an offshore wall of steel panels to keep contaminants from spreading further into the sea.

The utility says radioactive elements have mostly remained near the embankment inside the bay, but experts have reported offshore "hot spots" of sediments contaminated with high levels of cesium.

The leaks came as Tokyo headed into the final days of the contest to host the 2020 Summer Olympics. With anti-government demonstrations plaguing Istanbul's bid and a recession and high Spanish unemployment hanging over Madrid's candidacy, Tokyo is pushing its bid as the safe choice in uncertain times.

The IOC is to select the 2020 host on Sept. 7 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. □

Associated Press

'American Idol' picks Lopez, Connick as judges

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "American Idol" is betting that a judges' remix with Jennifer Lopez, Harry Connick Jr. and Keith Urban will fare better with viewers than bickering divas Mariah Carey and Nicki Minaj did last season.

Fox on Tuesday announced the addition of Lopez and Connick as judges for season 13. They'll join Urban to make up the talent show's first panel consisting solely of singers — like NBC's successful 2011 upstart "The Voice."

Pop star and actress Lopez will be back on "American

Idol" after a two-season run as judge in 2011 and 2012 that helped the show and her career. Connick, a respected jazz singer and musician, proved adept as a mentor in several "Idol" appearances.

Urban's return was announced last month by Fox Chairman Kevin Reilly, who said the singer didn't get a chance to show his personality in his first turn as a judge. Urban appeared overwhelmed last season by the Carey-Minaj cross-fire that drew complaints from some viewers.

"I think this season of 'Idol' is gonna be a blast," Urban said in a statement Tues-

day. "New team, new energy and a whole new field of artists to be discovered and given a chance!"

Fox also announced that original judge Randy Jackson, who left along with Carey and Minaj, will be back in a new role as in-house mentor to the contestants. "Idol" won viewers by discovering future stars including Kelly Clarkson, Carrie Underwood and Jennifer Hudson. But recent winners haven't had similar success.

Host Ryan Seacrest said that early "Idol" auditions have cemented his belief "that a new superstar is within our sights." □



FILE - In this May 2, 2013 file photo originally released by Fox, singer Harry Connick Jr. performs onstage at FOX's "American Idol" Season 12 Top 4 To 3 Live Elimination Show in Los Angeles. Fox announced Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013 that Connick, along with Jennifer Lopez and Keith Urban will be judges on the upcoming season of "American Idol."

Associated Press

It's a wrap for HBO's 'True Blood'

NEW YORK (AP) — It's a wrap for the sexy supernatural on HBO's "True Blood."

The network said Tuesday that the series will end next year, following a 10-episode season that will begin in the summer. That will be the show's seventh season. The series stars Anna Paquin as Sookie Stackhouse. Paquin works with her husband, actor Stephen Moyer, who plays a vampire. The real-life couple became parents of twins last year.

The show has been a hit for HBO at a time it was looking for something new. Episodes averaged more than 10 million viewers for the sixth season, which concluded last month. □



This publicity image released by HBO shows Stephen Moyer as Bill Compton in the series "True Blood." HBO said Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, that the series will end next year, following a 10-episode season that will begin in the summer. That will be the show's seventh season.

Associated Press

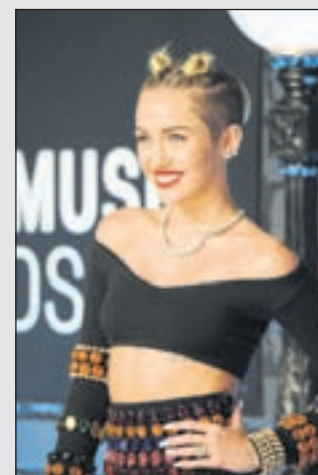
Miley Cyrus on VMA awards: 'That's just me'

NEW YORK (AP) — Miley Cyrus says in an interview clip that she doesn't listen to the negative comments around her performance on the MTV Video Music Awards.

The pop star says she felt she and Robin Thicke were making history with the risqué performance of their hits "We Can't Stop" and "Blurred Lines."

The comments were Cyrus' first since the Aug. 25 show. The clip was recorded last week and posted Tuesday on MTV's website.

Cyrus compares the performance to that of Madonna and Britney Spears, who once kissed on air. Cyrus says she is surprised people were still talking about it three days later: "You're thinking about it more than I thought about it when I did it. I didn't even think about it, because that's just me." □



Miley Cyrus arrives at the MTV Video Music Awards on Sunday, Aug. 25, 2013, at the Barclays Center in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Associated Press

Lance Armstrong documentary premieres at Venice Film Festival

LOUISE DIXON

Associated Press

VENICE, Italy (AP) — Director Alex Gibney started filming Lance Armstrong before the cyclist acknowledged doping, and looking back now at the 2009 footage he realizes "there was a lot of material there where he was just lying to

me straight out."

Gibney was in Venice on Tuesday for the premiere of his film "The Armstrong Lie," in which he salvaged the 2009 footage meant for a comeback movie and added interviews with Armstrong after the stunning disclosure.

Gibney said that Armstrong

"to some extent, is always a curator of his own myth and his own story" and once he realized that people no longer idolize him the same way "I think he wanted to spin it."

Still, Gibney maintains that Armstrong "was more honest" in the later interviews. □



Director Alex Gibney poses for photographers during a photo call for the film The Armstrong Lie at the 70th edition of the Venice Film Festival held from Aug. 28 through Sept. 7, in Venice, Italy, Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013.

Associated Press



This image released by NPG Records shows the cover art for Prince's new song "Breakfast Can Wait," showing comedian Dave Chappelle dressed as Prince.

Associated Press

Prince delivers 'Breakfast' for his new song

NEW YORK (AP) — The artwork may have made people laugh, but Prince's new song is no joke.

The mercurial superstar announced Tuesday that he's released "Breakfast Can Wait."

It caused a stir when Prince released the cover art for the song — a photo of Dave Chappelle dressed as Prince — on YouTube. Prince has been raising his profile lately with perfor-

mances worldwide with his new group, 3rdeyegirl. He also recently started tweeting from the group's account, surprising some, given his negative comments about the Internet in the past.

The song is being released through his new distribution deal with the independent Kobalt Label Services. He's working on a new album that's set to be titled, "Plectrum Electrum." □

Monae to sing live Fashion Week runway soundtrack



This July 7, 2013 file photo released by Essence shows Janelle Monae performing at the Essence Festival at the Superdome in New Orleans.

Associated Press

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Models on Rebecca Minkoff's New York Fashion Week runway will be strutting to the live music of Janelle Monae. Monae will sing at Friday's

show at Lincoln Center as part of "American Express Unstaged," a program that pairs artists and makes their collaborations available through digital media, including a live stream from the catwalk. □

Big in Japan: American Chris Hart finds J-pop home



In this photo taken Monday, Aug. 5, 2013, San Francisco-born Chris Hart sings at an outdoor concert in Tokyo. His album of cover versions of Japanese pop tunes is rising on the charts. And the crooner, a past winner of the Japanese karaoke show "Nodojiman The! World," is scoring on this nation's equivalent of "American Idol," being billed as a genius who understands the "soul" of Japan.

Associated Press

AZUSA UCHIKURA
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Leaving San Francisco, singer Chris Hart has made himself at home in "J-pop."

His album of cover versions of Japanese pop tunes is rising on the charts. And the crooner is scoring on this nation's equivalent of "American Idol," being billed as a genius who understands the musical soul of Japan.

His success highlights a music industry that's still booming, and increasingly eager to internationalize. It's even ready to eclipse the U.S. music world, where CD sales have plunged with the arrival of digital technology.

Hart, 29, says he is living his dream. And he doesn't mind a bit that his fame has come so far from home.

"I am a part of the J-pop world now," he said in a recent interview, using the term for pop music in the world's third-biggest economy.

Hart has won over Japan by focusing on adaptations of local hits such as "Home," a 2008 ballad popularized by singer Yusaku Kiyama about the joys of becoming a father.

Hart's rendition, released as a single in May, surged to

No. 13 on the Oricon music charts, Japan's equivalent of Billboard. A month later, Hart released his first album, "Heart Song," which reached third on Oricon. That's saying a lot, given the size of Japan's market. Japan's music industry is estimated at \$4.42 billion, closely trailing the U.S. at \$4.48 billion, although Japan has less than half the population, according to the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry, which tracks such data.

While other countries have shifted to digital music, CDs still make up 80 percent of Japan's music sales, according to the Recording Industry Association of Japan. Only 34 percent of music sales are CDs in the U.S., and 58 percent is digital. Recent albums from established Japanese acts such as B'z and Southern All Stars are setting off a CD revival. AKB48 and other groups featuring young women, known as "idols," are boosting CD purchases among the younger crowd. The CDs sometimes come with concert tickets and other benefits, so some fans are buying multiple copies of the same one.

"Japanese people tend to want the physical CDs or

the gifts and trinkets that come as perks with many albums. Music companies are getting creative," said Tomonobu Yonai, a spokesman for the recording industry group.

Hart's career took off with an appearance in a popular Japanese TV show called "Nodojiman The! World," in March 2012, where foreigners compete in karaoke.

Hart blew away the judges, mostly singers and celebrities who not only praised his technique but also his understanding of the lyrics and the emotions of the tunes. He was crowned "the world's best foreign J-pop singer."

"I feel embarrassed to come on stage," said singer Masahiro Nakai after Hart covered one of his songs in his clear, smooth tenor. Akiko Wada, another singer, called him "just perfect."

Hart started learning Japanese when he was 12. He wanted to study Korean because his aunt was of Korean descent, but his school offered only Japanese. He was quickly drawn to Japanese culture. A year later, he went on a homestay program in Japan, where he fell even deeper in love with Japan. □

War Weariness



CHARLES M. BLOW
© 2013 New York Times

America may have lost its stomach for military intervention. The Obama administration has made its case that the Syrian president, Bashar Assad, used chemical weapons against his own people and that a "limited" military response is in order to demonstrate that international norms will - and must - be enforced. President Barack Obama said during a news conference Friday, "It's important for us to recognize that when over a thousand people are killed, including hundreds of innocent children, through the use of a weapon that 98 or 99 percent of humanity says should not be used even in war, and there is no action, then we're sending a signal."

The president is attempting to assure the American people that any action in Syria will not involve American boots on the ground and will not be a sink-hole like the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, but that is a hard case to make.

The problem is that America seems war weary.

If the administration is correct, this is a human rights tragedy. Something should be done. But must we always be the ones to do it? Does protecting America's interest mean policing the world's horrors?

When innocent lives are taken in the most reprehensible of ways, to whom do their souls cry? Whence comes their justice? Is America's moral leadership in the world carved out by the tip of its sword?

These are profound questions that go straight to the heart of how we see ourselves on a rapidly changing planet. Are we the arbiters of the world's atrocities?

It would seem that Americans are conflicted about that role, at least in this case.

An NBC News poll released Friday found that while 58 percent of Americans believe that the use of chemical weapons by any country is a "red line" requiring a significant U.S. response, including military action, only 42 percent believe that we should take such action in Syria and only 21 percent are convinced that such action is in our national interest. Fifty per-

cent of Americans believe that we should take no significant military action.

To put that in context, according to data from Gallup, the highest disapproval rate for military action in the last 30 years was 45 percent for military action in Haiti in 1994 and in Kosovo and the Balkans in 1999.

Our current conflicts, no doubt, weigh heavily on Americans' minds.

The war in Afghanistan is now in its 12th year, and the Iraq War lasted nearly 9 years. In fact, only 7 of the past 30 years have seen the United States not engaged in military action in some part of the world, according to Gallup.

And most of the countries where the United States has been engaged are halfway around the world, where few Americans are likely to have been or even be familiar with.

In fact, according to the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press, only 50 percent of Americans can correctly locate Syria on a map, and an April report from Pew found that fewer than one in five Americans have followed the news about Syria very closely since May 2011.

Convincing Americans that a place they hardly know about poses a security threat may prove difficult. We all remember that the Iraq War was based on faulty intelligence trafficked by the Bush administration and regurgitated by the media. This damaged folks' faith and left them dubious.

Furthermore, the coalition we might expect to support intervention isn't intact. The British Parliament voted against launching a strike on Syria, a shocking move by one of America's staunchest allies. The U.N. Security Council did not resolve to use military force, and there is not likely to be a vote in Congress before any action is taken. The president is out on a most precarious limb on this issue. It is an unenviable position, where the right moral move could be the wrong political one, where the to-what-end question has a lack-of-clarity answer. Would a "limited" bombing campaign be the military equivalent of slap on the wrist? How would it guarantee an end to the atrocities?

These are the moments - when the support flags and emotions flare - that try the character and constitution of a leader, particularly a leader who rose to prominence as an anti-war candidate.

The president said Friday that "a lot of people think something should be done, but nobody wants to do it." Does he want to? Or must he? And must we? Always? □



Beauty And The Beast Of Burden



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF
© 2013 New York Times

During an August vacation with my family, I enjoyed lodgings so spectacular that not even Bill Gates or Warren Buffett could ever buy or rent them.

The scenery was some of America's finest: snowcapped mountains, alpine lakes, babbling brooks. The cost? It was free.

We were enjoying some of America's public lands, backpacking through our national patrimony. No billionaire can acquire these lands because they remain - even in a nation where economic disparities have soared - a rare democratic space. The only one who could pull rank on you at a camping spot is a grizzly bear.

"This is the most beautiful place in the world," my 15-year-old daughter mused beside a turquoise lake framed by towering fir trees. She and I were hiking 200-plus miles on the Pacific Crest Trail, joined for shorter bits by my wife and sons.

We imbibed from glacier-fed creeks, startled elk and dallied beside alpine meadows so dazzling that they constitute an argument for the existence of God. At night, if rain didn't threaten, we spread our sleeping bags under the open sky - miles from any other human - and fell asleep counting shooting stars.

You want to understand the concept of a "public good"? It's exemplified by our nation's wilderness trails.

In some ways, this wilderness is thriving. Cheryl Strayed's best-selling book "Wild," about her long backpack on the Pacific

Crest Trail, has inspired hordes of young women to try the trails. Reese Witherspoon is starring in a movie of "Wild," made by her production company, and that will undoubtedly send even more out to feed the mosquitoes.

The talk of the trail this year was of a woman named Heather Anderson who shattered a record by backpacking from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail, without support, in 61 days. That's nearly 44 miles a day over tough terrain. She says she graduated from high school at 200 pounds and found purpose - and lost 70 pounds - on the trails. On this trek, she had encounters with five rattlesnakes, eight bears and four mountain lions. (For more on Heather Anderson's extraordinary journey, visit my blog at kristof.blogs.nytimes.com.)

Yet America's public goods, from our parks to "Sesame Street," are besieged today by budget-cutters, and it's painful to hike some trails now. You see lovingly constructed old bridges that have collapsed. Trails disturbed by avalanches have not been rebuilt, and signs are missing.

"Infrastructure is really crumbling," Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, herself a backpacker, told me. She notes that foreign tourists come to visit America's "crown jewels" like Yosemite and are staggered by the beauty - and flummoxed by the broken toilets.

It's even worse at the U.S. Forest Service, which is starved of funds partly because firefighting is eating up its budgets. The Forest Service has estimated that only one-quarter of its 158,000 miles of trails meet its own standards.

About once a year, my family hikes the spectacular Timberline Trail, constructed in the Great Depression around Mount Hood in Oregon as a public works project. But one section washed out in 2006, and it still hasn't officially reopened.

What our ancestors were able to create when we were a poor

country, we are unable to sustain even now that we are rich. That's not because of resources. It's because they were visionaries, and we are blind.

Wallace Stegner called our national parks America's "best idea." The sequester, which I would call "America's worst idea," was supposed to save money, but when sloping trails aren't maintained every year or two, they erode and require major repairs that cost even more. Republicans praise the idea of citizen volunteers and public-private partnerships. But our agencies are so impoverished that they can't take full advantage of charity. Mike Dawson of the Pacific Crest Trail Association says that volunteers could provide about 250,000 hours repairing the trail each year. But the Forest Service doesn't have the resources to organize and equip all the volunteers available, so it will be able to use only one-third of that free labor this year, he says. That's crazy. All this is symptomatic of a deeper disdain in some circles for the very idea of a public good: Who needs a national forest? Just buy your own Wyoming ranch! This fall will probably see a no-holds-barred battle in Washington over fiscal issues, and especially the debt limit. But, in a larger sense, it's a dispute over public goods. So, considering how ineffective Congress is, perhaps we should encourage all 535 members to take a sabbatical and backpack the Pacific Crest Trail. I'm not sure we'd miss them for five months. And what an entertaining reality show that would make!

It would also have a serious side. Maybe when dwarfed by giant redwoods, recalcitrant politicians would absorb a lesson of nature: We are all part of something larger than ourselves. Perhaps they would gain perspective and appreciate the grandeur of our public lands of which they are such wretched stewards. □



EGGPLANT'S POWER TO PERSUADE

An eggplant dip garnished with pomegranate seeds and olive oil.
(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

MELISSA CLARK

© 2013 New York Times

The most persuasive way to convert an eggplant hater is to fry it (the eggplant, not the hater). A less messy approach, however, is to make dip. Velvety, smoky dip with a tangy bite has seduced many an eggplant-hating guest.

Now, this dip is not a variation on baba ghanouj, the tahini-laced purée. I like to leave out the tahini entirely, substituting a combination of mellow Greek yogurt and olive oil to enrich the eggplant, along with a spoonful of pungent minced garlic and plenty of fresh, bright lemon juice to flavor it.

But the most important flavor element in this dish isn't an ingredient; it's a technique.

To capture the right smoky flavor, you need to char the eggplant until the skin blackens and the flesh collapses, preferably over a wood or charcoal fire. A gas grill or hot oven will work if you let the eggplant skin practically turn to ash, which takes longer than it would over the intense direct heat of the grill.

Don't worry about burning the skin. In fact, that's the point. The sweet egg-

plant flesh really absorbs the smoky notes from the charred skin, and then you peel it off before making the purée.

The dip is perfectly nice on its own, but to make it even harder for the resistant to resist, I've garnished it with a mix of good olive oil, juicy pomegranate seeds, fresh mint and chopped dates. It's a mishmash of ingredients that's beautiful, tasty and in no way traditional to any culture that I know of. Yet it works really nicely here.

This said, feel free to garnish your dip however you like. The one nonnegotiable element is the olive oil. You don't use much in the dip itself, so a copious drizzle on top is essential to balance everything out.

Finally, to make the dish more of a centerpiece, I serve it with homemade herbed pita chips that I toss on the grill after the eggplant is finished but the coals are still hot.

If the combination of the crunchy pita chips and meltingly soft dip doesn't

persuade the eggplant-averse in your circle, do not think twice about it. Next summer you can always pull out the deep fryer. In the meantime, there's more dip for you.

SMOKY EGGPLANT YOGURT DIP WITH HERBED PITA CHIPS

Time: 30 minutes, plus heating the grill

Yield: 6 to 8 servings

3/4 cup plus 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil, more for serving

1/4 cup packed fresh oregano leaves

3 tablespoons packed fresh thyme leaves

1 teaspoon coarse kosher salt, more to taste

3 pita breads, whole wheat or regular

1 1/2 pounds small, thin eggplant like Japanese or Italian

3 garlic cloves, minced

1/3 cup plain Greek yogurt

Juice of 1/2 lemon, more to taste

1/2 teaspoon black pepper

Fresh mint leaves, for garnish (optional)

Pitted, sliced dates, for garnish (optional)

Pomegranate seeds, for garnish (optional)

1. Heat the grill. Meanwhile, in a blender combine 3/4

cup olive oil, the oregano, thyme and 1/2 teaspoon salt. Blend until you have a rough purée, 2 to 5 minutes depending on how strong your blender is. Taste and add a pinch of salt if needed. Purée should be well seasoned.

2. Split pita breads in half along their seams to make 6 flat rounds. Brush both sides of each pita round with herb purée.

3. When grill is hot, cook the eggplant, whole, until skins are shriveled and flesh has collapsed, about 8 to 12 minutes per side. Transfer to a bowl to cool.

4. Grill pitas until crisp, about 30 seconds to 1 minute per side. Let rest for a minute or two until cool enough to handle but still very warm, then slice each round into 6 wedges.

5. Peel eggplant and put flesh in a food processor with remaining 1 tablespoon oil, the garlic, yogurt, lemon juice, pepper and remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt.

Purée, then taste and add more lemon or salt (or both) if needed. Serve the dip spread on a plate, drizzled with more olive oil and garnished with mint, dates and pomegranate seeds if desired. □



An eggplant dip garnished with pomegranate seeds and served with pita chips. To capture the right smoky flavor, the eggplant needs to be charred until the skin blackens and the flesh collapses, preferably over a wood or charcoal fire.

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)